

Hafa Adai!

Toyota Sienna stolen from car rental in Garapan. **PAGE 3**  
Striped eel catfish in Saipan lagoon not a threat. **PAGE 6**

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# Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER



Volume XXIX, Issue No. 149  
**TUESDAY** JULY 30, 2019  
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## LANTERN CEREMONY

Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang accompanies high priest Kansho Kayaki, consul for the Consular Office in Japan Ono Kazuhiko, and his wife, to watch the many lanterns that were launched into the ocean last Sunday at Kilili Beach. This ceremony marks the Sanpoen group's 41st annual visit to the CNMI. The group performs this ceremony to offer peace to those who perished during the Battle of Saipan.

MARC A. VENUS

# Judge mulls not hearing IPI suit

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
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REPORTER

**U**.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona is considering whether it would be appropriate for the federal court to opt not to hear the lawsuit filed by the Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC against



Manglona

the Commonwealth Casino Commission.

Manglona noted Friday that, in her review of the materials from the Superior Court, where the case originated, she is considering whether abstention from the state-law questions in

See **JUDGE** on **Page 4**

## House member summoned to court

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**  
[erwin\\_encinares@saipantribune.com](mailto:erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com)  
REPORTER

A member of the House of Representatives had to put his committee meeting yesterday on recess so he could appear at a court hearing after he was tied to a public debt that dates back to 2002.



Camacho

Rep. Joel Camacho (R-Saipan), who chairs the House Judiciary and Governmental Operations Committee, appeared at the Superior Court after Associate Judge Wesley Bogdan summoned the representative after a complaint was filed

See **HOUSE** on **Page 4**

## Order to separate boy and girl is voided

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
[ferdie\\_delatorre@saipantribune.com](mailto:ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com)  
REPORTER

Citing lack of jurisdiction, the Superior Court has voided a Family Court judge's order of protection that prevents a 17-year-old boy from having contact with his alleged 15-year-old girlfriend and the

girl's mother and the girl's mother's boyfriend.

In an order on Friday, Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho dismissed with prejudice the criminal charge of contempt in the case filed against the boy.

That means the government cannot re-file the

charge anymore.

Camacho ruled that the statute is clear—orders of protection are only authorized for protection against a family or household member who commits an act of domestic or family violence and that the Family Court does not have

See **ORDER** on **Page 4**

## INSIDE



### BUSINESS

XO Market on Middle Road goes bigger and better in a new location.

**PAGE 14**



### NATION

Three people were killed and 12 others injured at a food festival in Northern California.

**PAGE 15**



### ASIA

Police fired tear gas and rubber bullets to drive back protesters in Hong Kong.

**PAGE 16**



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## Local

# 'Austerity influencing budget talks

By ERWIN ENCINARES  
erwin\_encinares@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The government-wide austerity measures is influencing ongoing fiscal year 2020 budget discussions at the Senate, according to Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee

chair Sen. Jude Hofschneider (R-Tinian) yesterday.

He noted in an interview with *Saipan Tribune* that the committee is considering some provisions proposed in the Senate budget

» **Senate committee product expected this week**

version "to reflect on the occurrence that is happening this [fiscal] year."

These proposals were some of the major discussions since the start of talks. Such provi-

sions include having funds appropriated specifically for a vacancy be re-appropriated to the Medical Referral program if the agency fails to hire someone before March 31, 2020.

Hofschneider added that if the agency fails to hire some-

one before the deadline, the agency would also lose the ability to hire for that specific position in the future.

In terms of a final Senate product, Hofschneider believes his committee will come up with an acceptable budget bill by the end of the week.

"We are pretty close. I am pressing the committee to have a working product to present to the whole [Senate] by the end of the week," he said.

Fiscal year 2020 starts on Oct. 1, 2019, and ends on Sept. 30, 2020. The CNMI Legislature has to pass a final budget bill to send to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres for review before the current fiscal year ends.



Triple J Motors offers a 2019 Mitsubishi Eclipse Cross and a 2019 Mazda CX-5 sport for hole-in-one prizes for the Governor's Tournament of Champions on Aug. 10 and 11, 2019. From left, John Salas, Millie Faisao, Amanda Ramon, Eppie Merana, Rochella Tomokane, Triple J Motors sales associates Jasmine Matsumoto and Shae Stovell, Marino Hirochi, and Triple J Motors general manager Sean Ficke.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



From left, Triple J Motors sales manager Ben Lizama, Eppie Merana, Marino Hirochi, Amanda Ramon, John Salas, Rochella Tomokane, Triple J Motors sales associate Jasmine Matsumoto, Millie Faisao, Triple J Motors general manager Sean Ficke, and Triple J Motors sales associate Shae Stovell pose next to the brand new 2019 Mazda CX-5 Sport offered by Triple J Motors for one of the Governor's Tournament of Champions' hole-in-one prizes.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## Triple J Motors offers 2 vehicles as tournament's hole-in-one prizes

Triple J Motors is offering a 2019 Mazda CX-5 Sport and a 2019 Mitsubishi Eclipse

Cross as hole-in-one prizes for the upcoming Governor's Tournament of Champions, which will be held on Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 10, and 11, 2019.

"The Governor's Tournament of Champions has been raising funds for beautification and other local projects for 24 years, and we are proud to have been a part of that strong tradition of community service and support," said Sean Ficke, Triple J Motors general manager. "We are excited to be a part of this year's tournament and wish all the players luck!"

"It doesn't get any more exciting than this," said Ben Babauta, tournament director. "Triple J Motors' generous donation of two brand-new vehicles will raise the excitement level of the tournament and help the event attract more golfers to play. We are thankful for the company's donation and their commitment to the tournament."

The 24th Governor's Tournament of Champions will be played at the Laolao Bay Golf and Resort's east and west courses on Aug. 10 and 11, 2019. The two-day event is bigger with exciting hole-in-one prizes and the chance to win thousands of dollars in possible prizes. The TOC tournament fee is \$200.

Winners in the Men's Championship, A, B, C, Senior and Super Senior flights will each receive \$500 cash, \$400 cash, \$300 cash, a Casio watch, and \$100 DFS gift certificate for the first to fifth

place, respectively. The Ladies Low Gross winners will receive \$500, \$400, and \$300 cash for first to third place, respectively. The first, second, and third place winners of the Ladies Low Net will each receive a trophy.

Hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of prizes are at stake in the two-day tournament, including hole-in-one prizes that also include a brand new 2019 Nissan Frontier donated by Joeten Motors, the brand new 2019 Mazda CX-5 Sport and a 2019 Mitsubishi Eclipse Cross donated by Triple J Motors and other prizes that will be announced in the coming days. There will also be thousands of dollars' worth in other prizes that include mobile devices, gift certificates, and more.

Platinum sponsors for the Governor's Tournament of Champions include T Galleria, Triple J Motors, LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort, Marianas Visitor's Authority, and Chivas Regal.

Gold sponsors include Chong's Corp., Joeten Motors, Power 99, IT&E, RNV Construction, Hyatt Regency Saipan, and Blue Stone Management.

For more information about sponsorship opportunities for the 2019 TOC, contact Marie Sablan at 236-2572 or Amanda Ramon at 236-2530. For player information and to download the registration form, visit [www.tocSaipan.com](http://www.tocSaipan.com). (PR)

**The Tinian Mayor's Office**  
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**[CHIEF TAGA' FESTIVAL]**  
**October 1-6, 2019**  
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**TINIAN, THE MARIANAS**

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**October 1-6:** Local Vendors (Variety of Food)

**October 01, 2019:** Historic presentation (MOT and T.E.S.)

**October 02, 2019:** Historic Presentation (T.J.S.H.S.)  
Booth Judging

**October 03, 2019:** Historic Presentation (TPL)  
Arts & Crafts Demonstration @ Fiesta Grounds  
Food Demonstration @ Fiesta Grounds

**October 04, 2019:** OPENING CEREMONY @ Fiesta Grounds 6:00p.m.

**October 05, 2019:** Welcoming of Chamoru Voyagers (Sakman) @ Kammer Beach  
Cultural Games, Demonstrations, and Entertainment

**October 06, 2019:** Activities and Entertainment  
CLOSING CEREMONY: Lighting of the Torches at TAGA' House

**For more information please contact the Tinian Mayor's Office**  
**at 670-433-1800 or 670-433-3222 (Joseph T. San Nicolas)**

# Toyota Sienna stolen from car rental in Garapan

Police officers were dispatched to the Garapan Fishing Base last Saturday, July 27, 2019, at about 9:21am, in response to a 911 call reporting a stolen vehicle.

Officers arrived at the scene at about 9:42am and noticed two male individuals standing near a white Toyota Sienna. As the officers approached the two, one stated that he was the one who dialed 911 and would like to file

a report of a stolen vehicle. Through video surveillance footage, officers learned that the white Toyota Sienna had been stolen earlier that morning by unknown suspects who have covered their faces with a black T-shirt.

During a quick interview, officers learned that the two victims work at BW Car Rental: one was the manager and the other an employee. The employee told officers

that he went into work at about 8:50am, noticed a broken glass window leading to their office, and called the manager about his discovery. The manager was driving to the site along Beach Road when he noticed a familiar-looking van parked at the Garapan Fishing Base marina. The manager continued toward the location of BW Car Rental and met with the employee who told him that



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
This frame grab from a surveillance camera shows the two thieves who took off in a stolen Toyota Sienna from the BW Car Rental.

their white Toyota Sienna was missing from the car lot. Both individuals got into the manager's vehicle and made their way to the Garapan Fishing Base marina before calling 911.

The CNMI Department of Public Safety is seeking the public's help in identifying the two individuals involved in the BW Car Rental theft case.

If you have any information related to this incident, call 911. If you wish to remain anonymous, call the CNMI Crime Stoppers. (PR)

## Group works with FEMA to rebuild homes

By **MARC VENUS**  
marc\_venus@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

A Methodist group that volunteers with the Federal Emergency Management Agency has come to help rebuild homes that were destroyed by Super Typhoon Yutu.

The United Methodist Committee on Relief, or UMCOR, not only helps FEMA rebuild homes but they are also making homes accessible and in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The group is from the U.S. mainland and is currently led by Linda Wilson, who is on her second trip to the CNMI. She was here last April and also helped with the same project.

"We're here because we saw that Saipan has a need and

we help whatever we can," Wilson said.

The group has also helped places such as St. Croix in the U.S. Virgin Islands and numerous states that have seen major disasters.

This committee arrived in the CNMI last July 20 and will be staying until this Friday, with a new captain taking over.

She said that the group helps as soon as FEMA completes an assessment on a destroyed home and provides the go-signal to do so. FEMA also provides the needed materials for the group.

UNCOR brings in a committee every two weeks, with a new group taking over the previous group's workload in a continuing process. The group helps not only just

homes that are completely destroyed but also helps replace roofs, windows, and doors.

Wilson said all group members are volunteers and most of them do not have backgrounds in construction, so they can only do so much. She estimates about 400 homes that need roofs or other materials, and she said that the group has completed 50 so far.

"Completing 50 homes so far is a lot for just seven volunteers," she said about the efforts that this group of seven has done in two weeks.

She hopes to come back and lead another team in the future, as she enjoys her trip to the islands and helping the people rebuild. "The people are all kind and are filled with the greatest hospitality," she added.

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# \$10K bail set for man tied to three theft cases

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA  
kimberly\_bautista@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Superior Court imposed yesterday a \$10,000 cash bail on a man who is suspected of breaking into a Susupe house last Friday and being involved in two other theft incidents.

Martin T. Jr. Castro, 34, was arrested for burglary and theft last Friday after he was allegedly caught on surveillance camera breaking and entering

a room at the Sunshine Garden in Susupe and taking a cell phone worth over \$700.

Castro was also arrested for a burglary and theft report at Mo's Restaurant in Susupe last Friday night, and a theft incident at a used car lot in San Antonio last Wednesday afternoon.

Superior Court Associ-



Castro

ate Judge Kenneth Govendo sustained the bail amount at \$10,000 as initially imposed by Superior Court Associate Judge Theresa Kim-Tenorio.

Govendo ordered Castro to return to court on Aug. 5 for a preliminary hearing and his arraignment on Aug. 12.

According to a declara-

tion of probable cause, Castro was arrested in Chalan Piao at around 12am last Saturday for a reported burglary at the Sunshine Garden in Susupe after he was identified through surveillance footage. Police noted that Castro was arrested several times in the past for burglary and theft.

Last Friday, at around 9:57pm, DPS officer Iris Rangamar responded to a theft at the Sunshine Garden in Su-

supe. At the scene, Rangamar met with a male individual who identified himself as the victim in the case.

The victim told Rangamar that he had left his cellphone in his room around 5pm that day and locked the room before leaving for dinner. He returned around 8pm and found his room door open and his Samsung cellphone worth \$700 was stolen.

The victim immediately went to the front desk and asked to view the surveillance footage and to also contact 911.

Rangamar watched the surveillance footage with the victim and identified the suspect as Castro, having dealt with him several times in the past.

Castro was seen climbing through the victim's sliding window and was later seen exiting through the victim's front door at around 6:41pm.

Castro was located at 12:01am on Saturday at a gas station in Chalan Piao where he was arrested and

brought to the Department of Corrections.

According to a Department of Public safety press release, officers later learned that Castro was also the suspect in a theft incident at Mo's Restaurant. Officers reviewed the footage from the restaurant and noticed an individual, later identified as Castro, wearing a dark colored T-shirt and a pair of gray shorts, walk into the establishment, grab the tip jar, and quickly walk out.

Castro was also identified as the suspect in the theft that occurred in San Antonio two days earlier, July 24. The victim of the theft stated that his rose gold-colored Samsung S7 cellphone had been stolen from inside the shop.

Upon reviewing surveillance footage, the victim said he saw a male individual, later identified as Castro, wearing a dark T-shirt and a pair of gray shorts enter the shop at around 10:45am and leave three minutes later.

## ORDER

From Page 1

jurisdiction to issue orders of protection for activities that do not constitute "domestic or family violence," or activities involving persons who are not "family members."

The government argues there is jurisdiction because the Family Court is empowered to hear requests for restraining orders. However, Camacho said, the act of someone filing a petition in Family Court does not automatically give the Family Court jurisdiction over the claim.

"The petition must contain the necessary allegations that the Family Court has the statutory authority to hear for the Family Court to have... jurisdiction over the matter," said Camacho, citing a precedent case.

And since he underlying court order is void and disobeying a void order is not contempt, the order of protection at issue "cannot form the basis for a contempt charge," he said.

According to court records, a mother filed a petition in the CNMI Family Court on Feb. 20, 2019, pursuant to the Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Act of 2000.

The mother said her 15-year-old daughter has a 17-year-old boyfriend and that when her daughter is with the boyfriend, she "totally changes and even talks back to them in a disrespectful manner."

Nothing on the petition lists any physical violence or threats of violence to any person, including the mother and daughter.

As alleged in the petition,

the most recent event occurred on Feb. 10, 2019, in which the girl was dropped off at school by her parents but she left the school campus. At 3pm, the mother went to the home of one of the boyfriend's friends, where her daughter was found. The daughter did not want to leave with the mother. The police and Division of Youth Services were called and the girl eventually left with the mother.

At 5:30pm that same day, the mother learned that her daughter had again left the home. At 7pm, the mother went looking for her daughter. The girl then followed her mother home.

At 8:30pm, the boyfriend arrived at the girl's residence and said he was checking to see if his girlfriend was okay. The boyfriend had to be asked to leave the premises four times.

The time frame is unclear from the petition, but it is alleged that the boyfriend and his friends drove by the house of the girlfriend, shouting profanities and, "Chagi Kagman (Try Kagman!)."

The girl's mother claimed that they need the restraining order because things were getting worse.

The mother said they have asked the Division of Youth Services and the Department of Public Safety for help and nothing has been done to assist them on the truancy of their daughter.

The girl did not request for the restraining order in the petition. She was not present at the hearing on the matter in Family Court.

An order of protection was entered in the Family Court case which, among other

things, prevents the boyfriend from having any contact with the girl, the girl's mother, and the mother's boyfriend.

Last April 1, a police detective filed a complaint of delinquency under oath in the Juvenile Case. The detective said there was probable cause to support charges of contempt of court, disturbing the peace, and criminal mischief, over an incident that occurred on March 29, 2019.

At the preliminary hearing in the Juvenile Case last April 11, the detective testified that the alleged boyfriend contacted the girl via Facebook messenger. The detective also alleged that the boyfriend and the girl were together last March 29.

The mother testified that her daughter's boyfriend did not send any message to her daughter, but that it was actually the girl's friend.

The mother and her boyfriend testified that the girl's boyfriend has not made any threats to anyone in their family, has not physically harmed anyone in the family, and has not committed any crimes against the family.

The mother further testified that she is mainly concerned with the two not obeying curfew.

The mother testified she was trying to get the authorities to help her work with her daughter's attitude.

The mother testified that her daughter has skipped school about five times this year.

The mother's boyfriend testified that the girl had previously run away 10 times.

On April 16, 2017, the Office of the Attorney General

filed a complaint of delinquency against the 17-year-old boy. It alleged that the boy committed contempt when he contacted the girl and the girl's mother last March 27 and 29.

The complaint also alleged that the boy went to the girl's mother's house with his friends and was told several times to leave her property, to which he did not listen, and started shouting profanities, including the phrase "Chagi Kagman" at her..."

The boy was arrested in the Juvenile Case and held at the Department of Corrections from March 28 until April 1.

A hearing was held last July 17 on the issue whether the order of protection issued by the Family Court is valid and enforceable.

The boy, through assistant public defender Heather Zona, argued that the order of protection is void and unenforceable because the Family Court lacks jurisdiction to issue the order.

The prosecution, through assistant attorney general Samantha Vickery, argued that, to the extent there is any defect in the order of protection, the order would be voidable, not void, and the boy would still have to obey the order until it was rescinded or modified.

In voiding the order of protection and dismissing the case, Camacho said the mother's petition contains no allegations that the boy made any threats or committed any violent acts against her, her daughter, and her family members.

IPI and its subsidiaries—Grand Marianas (CNMI) LLC and Imperial Pacific Properties LLC—would rather just return the case to the Superior Court—a move opposed by CCC and CCC executive director Edward C. Deleon Guerrero.

IPI applied for a temporary restraining order against CCC last month with the Superior Court to prevent the CCC from publicly disclosing IPI's audited financial information in response to an Open Government Act request of Rep. Edwin Propst's (Ind-Saipan). Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo granted IPI's TRO request.

Last week, CCC moved to transfer IPI's complaint to the district court, which then extended the TRO until this Friday.

In IPI's reply to Manglona's invitation to file a brief, IPI's

## JUDGE

From Page 1

this case may be appropriate under the Pullman Doctrine.

That means a federal court may abstain or choose not to hear a case until the state law question can be resolved in state court.

Alternatively, Manglona said, the federal court may decline to exercise supplemental jurisdiction because the claim in IPI's lawsuit raises a novel or complex issue of Commonwealth law and the Commonwealth law claim predominates over the claim over which the District Court has original jurisdiction.

Manglona said the parties may file supplemental briefs by yesterday, Monday, if they wish to be heard on these issues.

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Last week, CCC moved to transfer IPI's complaint to the district court, which then extended the TRO until this Friday.

In IPI's reply to Manglona's invitation to file a brief, IPI's

counsel Viola Alepuyo and Phillip J. Tydingco asserted that the District Court should abstain from exercising jurisdiction in this case under the Pullman Doctrine.

Alternatively, Alepuyo and Tydingco said the District Court, at a minimum, should decline to exercise supplemental jurisdiction over IPI's claims and remand IPI's claims back to the Superior Court.

Alepuyo and Tydingco said that abstaining and remanding the matter back to the Superior Court for resolution can void or otherwise obviate the need to address a federal due process violation.

CCC and CCC executive director Deleon Guerrero, through respective counsel assistant attorneys general Benjamin Peterburg and Michael I. Ernest, argued that the District Court has jurisdiction over the federal questions presented in this case and supplemental jurisdiction over any other state law claims.

Intervenors Grand Marianas (CNMI) LLC and Imperial Pacific Properties LLC, through counsel Matthew T. Gregory and Braddock J. Huesman, asked the district court to invoke the Pullman Doctrine and remand all claims back to the CNMI Superior Court.

Gregory and Huesman said this is a procedurally odd case that requires the interpretation of CNMI law before getting to issues of federal civil rights violations.

Generally, the lawyers said, this case involves determining the meaning of the law regulating casino oversight and establishing the CCC and that law's interplay with the CNMI's Open Government Act.

## HOUSE

From Page 1

by an insurance company named "Marianas Insurance" against a former representative of Precinct 4 on Saipan.

"I went out to the Superior Court out of respect to hear out the other party's complaint and to represent the precinct. If I hear anything about any debt assumed by Precinct 4, I want to hear what that is about," he told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview.

Camacho noted that the alleged debt was originally about \$400 and was incurred back in 2002. After accruing interest, it is now \$900. He did not name the former representative who incurred the debt in 2002. He added that he does not personally know the former representative.

"I am not sure why they only called my office; I am not sure why they did not call previous representatives' offices. They reached out to me, [and] I responded," he said.

Bogdan reportedly presided

over the case. According to Camacho, Bogdan requested for more information from the complainant that would connect the debt to Camacho's office.

"...The debt does not belong to my office—let's make that clear," Camacho said. "It was very odd," he said, baffled as to why his office would take up a debt they did not make and why he was the only representative summoned.

"I don't feel like I should pay for somebody else's debt that they created in the past

A longer version of this story is available at [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com)

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## IT&E upgrades residential internet subscribers to faster download and upload speeds

It's a typical evening at home: the kids are playing Fortnite on their phones in the living room, trying not to be too loud because their older brother is doing research for his report on the laptop and Mom and Dad are on a video call with their daughter in the States.

As the internet becomes more crucial in the everyday lives of today's families, local mobile and internet provider, IT&E makes moves to offer the latest products and services to meet the islands' growing need for faster internet.

Recent upgrades to its fiber network have allowed IT&E to increase internet speeds and enhance its offerings to its residential subscribers.

### Good news for subscribers

IT&E's home internet is now faster than ever! Internet subscribers have been automatically upgraded to enjoy faster download and upload speeds. Subscribers with internet download speeds of 10 Mbps or 15 Mbps have been upgraded to 25 Mbps, while subscribers with speeds of 30 Mbps and 45 Mbps have been upgraded to 50 Mbps.

Subscribers will be able to stream more videos, play games and browse the internet faster. With higher upload speeds, subscribers will be able to send email and files faster and quality of video calls will be improved. IT&E has the fastest upload speeds in the Marianas at up to 5 Mbps.

### New plans

The 25 Mbps and 50 Mbps speeds are now the standard offering for the 2-service bundle. Current subscribers will enjoy this upgrade at no extra charge until August 31, 2019. Starting September 1, 2019, subscribers will begin to see a slight change on their statements. Some may see savings!

"We are excited to introduce these new speeds to provide our subscribers with the faster internet they need to connect with friends and family around the world, educate their children and access their favorite entertainment," said Rose Soledad, general manager of IT&E.

### Network upgrades

Faster internet and upgrade speeds for residential subscribers are a direct benefit of IT&E's recent expansion of its fiber network to bring the fiber nodes closer to homes.

"We are continuously expanding our network. This improvement is just one phase in a series of improvements we have planned to enhance customer experience on the strongest, only typhoon-proven network in the Marianas," said Jim Oehlerking, CEO of IT&E.

PREVIOUS RESIDENTIAL INTERNET SPEEDS	NEW RESIDENTIAL INTERNET SPEEDS
10 Mbps download 2 Mbps uploads \$75	25 Mbps download 4 Mbps upload \$85
15 Mbps download 2 Mbps upload \$80	
30 Mbps download 2 Mbps upload \$110	50 Mbps download 5 Mbps upload \$115
45 Mbps download 3 Mbps upload \$125	

# Striped eel catfish in Saipan lagoon not a threat

The presence of the striped eel catfish in the Saipan lagoon was first reported in 2005.

Since then no formal studies have been made to get more information about this particular marine species. That is, until D'amy Steward, a visiting National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration Hollings scholar and incoming senior at Duke University, did an intensive nine-week research on the striped eel catfish in the Saipan lagoon—their habits, ecological effects, and travel patterns.

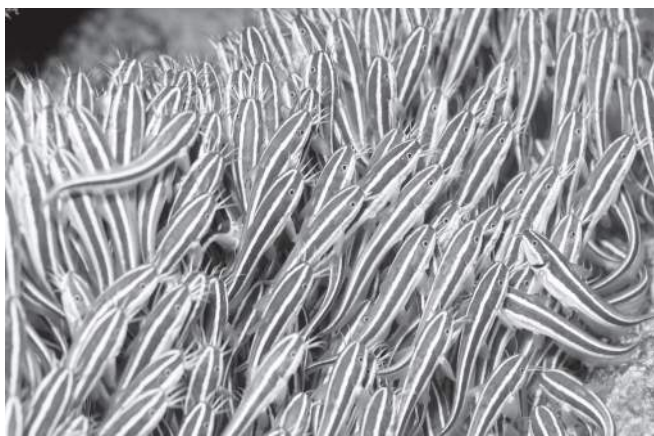
"This is the first study conducted in the CNMI of the striped eel catfish. ...The catfish are not aggressive and people have no need to be afraid of them. ...They have been here since 2005 and, other than a couple of fishermen getting stung, they do not appear to be affecting the local ecosystems," Steward said.

"There are certain areas that the catfish inhabit with limited home ranges, meaning they can consistently be found near the same structures...and these are not areas for concern. The public should not be concerned regarding the presence of these fish but they should avoid handling or trying to touch them," Steward added.

She did acknowledge that the striped eel catfish is known



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
D'amy Steward, a National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration Hollings scholar, looks closely at a school of striped eel catfish as part of her research on the effects this species has on CNMI waters. Photo below shows a Public Domain picture of a school of striped eel catfish.



as a venomous marine animal, but she was quick to clarify that the same can be said of a bee.

This fish, Steward said, is only a threat to people who try to handle them. "If someone were to handle the catfish

and accidentally get stung, go to the local emergency room for treatment. The fish venom is only fatal in extremely rare cases and should not be cause for concern as bee stings can also be fatal in rare cases."

"This must be taken into

consideration and people should not overreact, but it is still advised to get medical attention when stung by any marine organism. ...The only real concern is for people who handle the fish because, similar to lionfish, when handling the catfish, one must be cautious to avoid the spines," she added.

Saipan relies heavily on tourism, which includes marine recreational service and activities. Steward said this is not something that has been directly studied. "However, the catfish are not something that people should be concerned about. From my initial nine-week study, it appears the catfish have no impact on recreational activities or tourism," she said.

"If anything, you have to get lucky to find them and watching their schooling behavior is a unique treat. ...It took me six weeks and over 50 miles of coverage area until I found the first group of adults. The juveniles are more common, but still rare and if you see a school while walking along the beach, I think you will find they are quite beautiful to watch," she added.

To date, NOAA does not have data regarding the seasonality of their movement. "Based on anecdotal infor-

mation, they do not appear to move between islands and, this year, we only found them within the Saipan lagoon, which is a unique habitat to Saipan in all of the CNMI. We do have reports of these fish being observed in Laolao some years ago but have not received a report from any other beach areas or any of the other islands reporting their presence," Steward said.

"Most people were curious how far the catfish moved...and what it meant to be venomous. We now understand just how cryptic the adults of this species are, we have a better idea of their habitat preferences and we were able to observe a lot of juvenile behavior. Fishermen have learned and will continue to learn how to properly handle the fish to avoid the spines," Steward added. **(Bea Cabrera)**

## No shortage of CHC doctors

The Commonwealth Health Care Corp. does not consider itself to have a shortage of doctors as it is continuously recruiting physicians, according to CHCC spokesperson Zoe Travis.

In response to a *Saipan Tribune's* inquiry, Travis said Friday that there isn't simply a set number that they are hiring or that they are working to get up to. "We are constantly assessing our needs based on the population, health concerns in the CNMI, and what specialties we can offer," she said, citing their recent addition of an oncologist and oncology services.

She said this is the same with every hospital. "No one facility can have every single type of specialist."


Travis pointed out that to say that there is a shortage of

doctors implies a deficit in the services provided, which is not the case with CHCC.

She said they know, however, that they can continue to improve their services by recruiting more providers and introducing new specialties.

With respect to three doctors listed as new applicants and five doctors as renewal applicants with CHCC, Travis said information about CHCC board's decision is not available to the public as of now because it was discussed during an executive session. CHCC will release updates as they become available.

She said all five doctors for renewal work as internal medicine providers on either Saipan or Tinian. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**



## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director

### INVITATION FOR BIDS

#### CUC-IFB-19-012, Rev. 1

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### ISLAND WIDE WATER METER INSTALLATION, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Island Wide Water Meter Installation, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

**This project is funded by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).**

This Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity work consists of the installation of new service saddles, corporation stops, and PVC service lines from the CUC main to the meter, proper sizing of existing service lines, installation of a water meter on non-metered customers, relocation of existing CUC water meters from private property to public easement, various exploration work, abandonment of unnecessary service lines, removal of existing manifold systems, and as required, installation of new service lines from the meter to the house plumbing.

The Bid Package may be picked-up, upon receipt of a non-refundable payment from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) on an electronic disk file; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on **August 1, 2019 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

**One (1) original and Seven (7) hard copies** must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-19-012, Rev.1, Island Wide Water Meter Installation, Saipan" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **9:00 AM (ChST) on August 16, 2019**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.


Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on August 2, 2019 to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email – [manny.sablan@cucgov.org](mailto:manny.sablan@cucgov.org) with a copy to Nicolette Villagomez, Water/Wastewater Engineer – via email [nicolette.villagomez@cucgov.org](mailto:nicolette.villagomez@cucgov.org) and Christie Sablan, Purchasing Technician, Senior – via email [christie.sablan@cucgov.org](mailto:christie.sablan@cucgov.org).

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

**GARY P. CAMACHO**  
Executive Director

**MANNY B. SABLAN**  
Purchasing Administrator




## Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

### OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

#### Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality

Division of Coastal Resources Management  
P.O. Box 501304, Saipan, MP 96950  
Tel.: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315  
[www.derm.gov.mp](http://www.derm.gov.mp)



Janice E. Castro  
Director, DCRM

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## AMENDED PUBLIC NOTICE

### MEETING OF THE CRM AGENCY OFFICIALS

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios through the Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) hereby give notice that a CRM Agency Officials meeting will be held on **Monday, August 5, 2019, 3:00PM** at the BECQ 2nd Floor Main Conference Room, in Lower Gualo Rai, Saipan.

### AGENDA

- PRELIMINARY MATTERS**
  - Call to Order
  - Roll Call
  - Adoption of Agenda
  - Adoption of April 9, 2019 Meeting Minutes
- PERMIT APPLICATION REVIEW**
  - CRM Permit Application No. TMS-2019-X-020 Project: XINGSHA HOTEL PROJECT** The Tinian Hairui Real Estate Co., LLC is proposing to construct the Xingsha Hotel along 8th Avenue and Kammer Beach, Lot No. 040 T 06, in San Jose, Tinian. The proposed project consists of three 3-story building complex with a total of 138 unit guest rooms, 112 parking spaces, storage area, control room, lobby and reception area, snack bar, and kitchen and dining areas with seating of about 24 persons. The proposal includes landscaping of plants and trees.
    - Agencies' Review and Discussion of Application Package
- OTHER MATTERS**
- ADJOURNMENT**

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony regarding the above agenda items. (NOTE: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a) (7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session).

/s/ JANICE E. CASTRO  
Director, DCRM

# 'CNMI food stamps unaffected by SNAP changes'

By MARC A. VENUS  
marc\_venus@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Department of Community and Cultural Affairs Secretary Robert Hunter assured that the CNMI Nutritional Assistance Program, which is under DCCA, will be safe despite proposed changes to rules for availing of food stamp benefits. Hunter said that the local

NAP will not implement any changes to its eligibility requirements.

He informed *Saipan Tribune* last Friday that CNMI NAP is different from the National Supplementary Nutritional Assistance Program. "If the proposed changes were to actually see implementation, they would not affect our Nutritional Assistance Program

or Enhanced Nutritional Assistance Program," he said. "The decisions that affect SNAP will most likely not affect NAP."

About 4,410 families in the CNMI avail of NAP benefits.

Last July 22, the U.S. Department of Agriculture proposed a new rule seeking to tighten automatic eligibility requirements and closing a

"loophole" that allowed people receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, or TANF, benefits to automatically be enrolled in the SNAP program in the U.S. mainland. TANF, a federal assistance program, helps pay for food, shelter, utilities, and expenses other than medical expenses while the SNAP provides financial aid for food.

NAP administrator Walter Macaranas also assured that the food stamp program will not be affected because NAP does not offer a TANF program and run on a separate block grant. Macaranas said there is only one way for automatic eligibility, and that is for recipients of the Social Security Office's Supplemental Security Income, or SSI, with recipients receiving a minimum allotment.

USDA estimates that 1.7

million households—3.1 million people—will not meet the eligibility of SNAP benefits under the new rule changes.

## 15 hurdle police academy cycle

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA  
kimberly\_bautista@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

A total of 15 men and women completed the 25th Police Academy Cycle last week.

Department of Public Safety Commissioner Robert Guerrero was joined by Commerce Secretary Mark Rabauliman, Northern Marianas College interim president Frankie Eliptico, acting governor Arnold I. Palacios, and other government officials at the graduation ceremony.

In a short interview with DPS spokesperson Adrian Pangelinan, he said there was a total of 12 male graduates and three female graduates.

Of their number, eight were from the Alcohol Beverage and Tobacco Control Division under the Department of Commerce and seven were from DPS. The training cycle started on April 29.



Guerrero

This year's academy was the first time that the Department of Commerce's ABTC Division joined DPS to increase its law enforcement capacity.

According to *Saipan Tribune* archives, Guerrero said the police academy gained the participation of numerous government divisions like Fish and Wildlife but, for the first time, ABTC entered its first batch of cadets.

Rabauliman hopes this will be the first of many. "This is the first time from the Department of Commerce. ... We are now part of the law enforcement family. And as such, whatever standards were set... we adopted and here we are, a couple of years later, my first batch of cadets. "Thanks to Northern Marianas College, the administration, and the DPS commissioner, they really helped us out. It worked out and I hope this is the first of many," he added.

## Senate resolution honors Hyatt

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA  
kimberly\_bautista@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Senate honored Hyatt Regency Saipan's contribution to the sustainability of the CNMI's hospitality industry with a resolution that was presented to hotel executives at the 4th Annual Northern Marianas Trades Institute gala last Friday.

Members of the Senate and NMTI personnel presented the Senate resolution that specifically recognized Hyatt general manager Nick Nishikawa as a catalyst and leader in NMTI's hospitality program.

"[This] has motivated local residents to enter careers directly related to tourism industry," the resolution states.

In a brief statement, Nishikawa said that Hyatt knows the importance of the hotel and hospitality industry in the CNMI and Hyatt is always happy to contribute.

According to NMTI CEO Agnes McPhetres the resolution shows their gratitude for all that Hyatt has done for NMTI's culinary arts program.

McPhetres added that the

resolution is to recognize Hyatt regency for coming out to help the NMTI when it was in such dire need, especially when their buildings were toppled over and NMTI was not eligible for federal assistance.

"Hyatt Regency has been helping the [Northern] Marianas Trades Institute when they did not have facilities, when the typhoon broke down the whole buildings and we didn't have classrooms. Hyatt Regency opened its doors and its kitchen and for many years we didn't have a kitchen to teach our students, so Hyatt offered its facilities to teach our students," she said.

McPhetres added that Hyatt is the best example of the private sector and the educational system working in harmony.

"It's just like our agreement now with Triple J on the culinary arts program. This is a resolution from the Senate in gratitude for the work and contribution of the Hyatt Regency to promote the trade school," she said.



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**2018 Toyota Corolla IM Hatchback**  
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**2017 Toyota Corolla**  
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Stock #U19052R. ~~Was: \$17,999~~  
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**2012 Toyota 4Runner**  
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Mileage: 29,172, Celestial Silver Metallic  
Stock# R18-048F. ~~Was: \$19,699~~  
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**2017 Toyota RAV4 LE**  
Mileage: 20,034, Pyrite Mica.  
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**2017 Toyota RAV4 LE**  
Mileage: 22,882, Silver Sky Metallic.  
Stock #U19053R. ~~Was: \$22,999~~  
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**2017 Toyota RAV4 LE**  
Mileage: 24,904, Black Pearl.  
Stock# U19056R. ~~Was: \$22,999~~  
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**2016 Toyota Highlander**  
Mileage: 28,299, Nautical Blue Metallic  
Stock# U18-121T. ~~Was: \$25,799~~  
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**2016 Toyota Highlander**  
Mileage: 24,759, Midnight Black Metallic  
Stock# U19037P. ~~Was: \$24,999~~  
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**2018 Toyota Tacoma 4x2**  
Mileage: 5,000, Magnetic Gray Metallic, TMax Edition.  
Stock #U19035R. ~~Was: \$25,999~~  
**NOW \$24,995\***



**2016 Toyota Highlander**  
Mileage: 22,865, Moulin Rouge Mica.  
Stock #U19050R. ~~Was: \$25,999~~  
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**2016 Toyota Highlander**  
Mileage: 31,287, Blizzard Pearl.  
Stock #R19020F. ~~Was: \$25,799~~  
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**2017 Toyota RAV4 4x4**  
Mileage: 8,387, 4-cyl. 5-door SUV, Silver Sky Metallic.  
Stock #R19-011F. ~~Was: \$25,999~~  
**NOW \$24,995\***



**2017 Toyota Sienna**  
Mileage: 14,231, Black.  
Stock# U19047R. ~~Was: \$25,999~~  
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**2016 Toyota Tacoma 4x2 PreRunner**  
Mileage: 48,525, Magnetic Gray Metallic.  
Stock #U19-025T. ~~Was: \$26,899~~  
**NOW \$25,999\***



**2016 Toyota 4Runner**  
Mileage: 24,500, Classic Silver Metallic.  
Stock #U19048P. ~~Was: \$27,995~~  
**NOW \$27,995\***



**2016 Toyota 4Runner**  
Mileage: 19,971, Classic Silver Metallic.  
Stock# U19059R. ~~Was: \$28,499~~  
**NOW \$28,499\***



**2016 Chevy Express**  
15-passenger van, Olympic White, Mileage: 2,351.  
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## ‘Allowing home brewing would save NMI money’

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**  
erwin\_encinares@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Chief Public Defender Doug Hartig believes that removing home brewing from the CNMI's list of criminal of-

fenses would ultimately save the CNMI money.

in his comments on Rep. Ivan Blanco's (R-Saipan) House Bill 21-27, which seeks to lift the criminal offenses that come when caught home

brewing alcoholic beverage, Hartig noted that doing so would ultimately save the government with prosecution money.

"The current law regarding alcohol production does not have a home brewing exception found in all other American jurisdictions," Hartig said. "Unlike the 50 states and all other territories, it is a

criminal offense to make *tuba*, wine, or beer at your house for your use."

Current law only exempts the use of unlicensed wines for religious ceremonies.

Hartig pointed out that, under indigenous tradition, certain types of alcoholic beverages are brewed and used for personal consumption such as *tuba*, or coconut wine.

According to the OPD, the CNMI is the only jurisdiction

that imposes criminal offenses on people caught brewing their own alcoholic beverages.

"The CNMI is the only U.S. jurisdiction where a person can go to jail and be fined [up to one year and \$1,000] for making a small [amount] of beer or wine or *tube* for his own use," Hartig wrote. "Right now, anyone making a small amount of *tuba* could be prosecuted just as if someone was importing and selling

liquor by the boatload. I do not think the resources of this office, the Office of the Attorney General, police, and courts should be spent in dealing with this type of prosecution."

H.B. 21-27 would allow personal brewing in batch quantities of no more than 10 gallons for private use and not for resale without a license. This language, according to Hartig, corrects the "inadvertent error" in current CNMI law.

As of publication, the bill is still in the House Commerce and Tourism Committee.

## Saipan Awaodori off to Japan

Seven members of the Saipan Awaodori Team will join the Tokyo Tensuien group for a series of performances this August in Tokyo, Japan.

Three dancers and one musician left Wednesday last week with Saipan Awaodori Team organizer Misako Kamata, while two more musicians and a dancer will follow to join them.

Saipan Awaodori Team members who already left for Japan include Tyvieann They, Vianny Mettao, Marcela Heben, and Audie Ostonal. Those who would follow are Sheena Saures, Virginia Imperial, and Jessie Serrano.

Aside from performing with the Tokyo Tensuien group in Tokyo, the Saipan Awaodori Team will also join them at the 61st Koenji Awaodori Festival on Aug.

24 and 25. Koenji Awaodori Festival is the second largest Awa Dance Festival in Japan, second only to Tokushima Prefecture's Obon Festival.

Saipan Awaodori Team is

coordinated by PDM Promoters Inc., a CNMI non-profit corporation.

The awaodori dance, when literally translated to English, means "fool's dance." *Awa* means fool, while *odori* means dance. (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Four members of the Saipan Awaodori Team pose with organizer Misako Kamata and two others at the departure area of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport before leaving for Tokyo, Japan last Wednesday.

**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands**  
**HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONS LICENSING BOARD**  
P.O. Box 502078, Bldg., 1242 Pohnpei Court  
Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950  
Tel No: (670) 664-4809 Fax: (670) 664-4814  
Email: cnmi@cnmibpl-hcplb.net  
Website: cnmibpl-hcplb.net

Pursuant to P.L. 8-41, Section 11, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios, through the Health Care Professions Licensing Board (HCPLB) are hereby giving notice that it will hold its regular monthly board meeting on **Tuesday, July 30, 2019 at 8am** on Saipan. The meeting will be held at the CHCC Conference Room #2, Lower Navy Hill.

**AGENDA**

- I. Meeting Call to Order
- II. Determination of Quorum
- III. Review and Adoption of Agenda
- IV. Review and Adoption of Minutes (06/13/19)
- V. Public Comments
- VI. Chairperson's Report
  - Request for Legal Services (AG)
- VII. Director's Report
  - Financial Report
  - Revisiting the licensing of EMTs (DFEMS)
- VIII. Investigator's Report
- IX. Communications from the Governor's Office & Legislature
  - A. Governor's Office
  - B. Legislature
    - S.B. No. 21-34 (Requiring Medical Assistants to be licensed, certified or registered)
- X. Old Business
  - A. Discussion/Adoption on the following Propose Regulations:
    1. Substance Abuse Counselor
    2. Clinical Psychologists
    3. Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist
  - B. Physician Residency Application
- XI. New Business
- XII. Pending Applications for Board's Review
  - A. New Applications
    - G. Dimitris (Physician)
  - B. Renewal Applications
    - Chester P. Cuento (Radiologic Technology)
- XIII. Miscellaneous Business
- XIV. Executive Session: The Board may vote to meet in executive session to consult with Counsel on pending or anticipated legal matters.
- XV. Announcements
  - A. Director (Esther) will be off-island from August 13-20, 2019 to attend the 2019 NCEES Annual Business Meeting (for Engineers) in D.C.
  - B. Next Meeting Date
  - C. Adjournment of Meeting

/s/ Theodore R. Parker, R.Ph., MPH  
Chairman

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### JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 05-2019

**Opening date: July 22, 2019**

**Closing date: August 06, 2019**

**Positions:**

- (1) Receptionist/Secretary (Saipan)
- (1) Ports Police Officer-I (Saipan)
- (1) Electrician (Saipan)
- (1) ARFF General Maintenance-I (Saipan)
- (1) ARFF/Ports Police Officer-I (Rota)
- (1) AOA Controller/Ground Maintenance-I (Rota)
- (1) General Maintenance-I (Tinian)

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official sealed transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the **CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport or CPA Administration Office Tinian International Airport or Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport**. Failure to provide any of the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening, 10-year Criminal History Record Check and 49 CFR Part 1542.209(d) Requirements. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents to the CPA Administration Office (Saipan) or at the Tinian International Airport or Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport is no later than **5:00 P.M. on Tuesday, August 06, 2019**.

Detailed information on qualifications and position descriptions for the above positions shall be picked up along with the application form from Monday-Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., except on holidays, at the CPA Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Arrival Terminal or CPA Admin. Office at the Tinian International Airport or at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport. For additional information, please contact the CPA Human Resources Office by email at jadene.villagomez@cpa.gov.mp or hrspecialist@cpa.gov.mp or by phone at (670)237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO  
Executive Director

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**  
**MVA-RFP-19-2015**

**Representation, Promotion and Public Relations Services for the Korea Market**

**Submission/Closing Date:**

**August 22, 2019**

**Time:**

**3:00 p.m. (ChST)**

Submit sealed proposals to:

Marianas Visitors Authority  
Attn. Priscilla M. Iakopo  
San Jose Professional Building  
Beach Rd., San Jose Village  
P.O. Box 500861  
Saipan, MP 96950

Interested parties may pick up the scope of work at the **Marianas Visitors Authority** office, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, except holidays or by visiting the MVA website at [www.my-marianas.com](http://www.my-marianas.com).

/s/ MARIAN ALDAN-PIERCE  
Chairperson, Board of Directors

/s/ PRISCILLA M. IAKOPO  
Managing Director

Robert Charles Harell  
Chalan Kiya Townhomes Apt B2  
670-285-7622

Pro Se,

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT  
OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE  
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

In re the Matter of The )  
Petition for The ) FCD-GU  
Appointment of General ) CIVIL ACTION  
Guardianship For: ) NO 19-0311  
James Bryant )  
Macalinao Marasigan ) **ORDER**  
Erik Emmanuel ) **SHORTENING**  
Macalinao Marasigan ) **TIME AND**  
by ) **NOTICE OF**  
Robert Charles Harell ) **HEARING**  
Petitioner(s), )

GOOD CAUSE APPEARING, It is hereby ordered that the time for notice of hearing for Petitioner(s) petition be shortened and that the hearing be set of 8/12/19 at 9:00 a.m. in Courtroom MBP.

Dated this 22nd day of July, 2019.

/s/ Teresa Kim-Tenorio,  
Associate Judge

## HR conference to feature DOL, EEOC, SHRM experts

The Society for Human Resource Management CNMI Chapter will be hosting an all-day conference on Aug. 14 at Hyatt Regency Saipan's ballroom to discuss key issues impacting the workplace today.

Labor Secretary Vicky Benavente will present on ongoing discussions the CNMI Department of Labor has with U.S. Department of Labor regarding the Interim Final Rules, including job vacancy announcements and recruitment requirements and postings.

Glory Gervacio Saure, director of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Honolulu office, will present on the "State of the

EEOC," including recent trends, agency updates and strategic priorities. Gervacio Saure will also present on the "Respectful Workplace" initiative and the agency's perspectives on sexual harassment, #metoo, and workplace culture.

Dr. Milton J. Perkins, Ph.D., SHRM-SCP, SPHR, CPC, vice president of ActOne Government Solutions, will discuss employee engagement, managing HR risks, and responding to employee complaints.

SHRM NMI Chapter invites its members, HR and management staff, and the public to attend this conference on Aug. 14, from 8am to 5pm.

This conference is open to the public and will provide invaluable information for business owners, employers, managers, and HR professionals and staff.

The presentation includes continental breakfast and lunch buffet at the cost of \$50 for SHRM members and \$60 for non-members. Seats are limited, so reserve your seat by contacting Penny Jones by email at [penelope.jones@hyatt.com](mailto:penelope.jones@hyatt.com) or Denise Montenegro at [denise.montenegro@hyatt.com](mailto:denise.montenegro@hyatt.com) or by telephone at 323-5867/68.

The Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) is the world's largest association devoted to human re-

source management. The Society serves the needs of HR professionals and advances the interests of the HR profession. Founded in 1948, SHRM

has more than 250,000 members in over 140 countries, and more than 575 affiliated chapters. The NMI Chapter is affiliated with the national or-

ganization.

For more information about the NMI Chapter, visit their website at <http://nmichapter.shrm.org>. (PR)

## SCORP site assessments to begin Aug. 1

The Office of Grants Management and State Clearinghouse under the CNMI Office of the Governor is right now developing the CNMI's Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan for 2019 – 2024.

The 2019 SCORP will outline the existing status, current needs, and future vision for outdoor recreation and open space protection. The plan will include public input from the CNMI's growing and changing population and will set concrete goals and strategies for improvements and additions to infrastructure, programming, and resources.

The plan will be led by the Horsley Witten Group, Inc. Project Team as part of the advisory committee.

The advisory committee will conduct site assessments of existing outdoor recreation resources as part of the inventory database development on Saipan, Tinian and Rota beginning Aug. 1, 2019. The committee will also conduct stakeholder meetings and interviews and a series of public workshops where agency/government stakeholders and the general public are encouraged to attend and provide their input into the process.

Since the award and official announcement of the SCORP early this year, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres reiterated the importance of safeguarding the CNMI's natural resources and creating a plan to guide outdoor recreation and economic activities.

"I encourage our community to provide their input on our most precious resources. This will strengthen our plans to better conserve, develop and improve accessibility. Overall, the creation of this plan will strengthen our efforts for community-based activities and tourism. I am very pleased to see this moving forward as this grant program is fully funded, and all techni-

cal assistance will go toward improving public lands and recreation for years to come," Torres said.

The SCORP will meet the National Park Service's planning eligibility requirements for the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund program. This program is a valuable source of support for protecting resources and providing facilities for public recreational use. The SCORP will also include a wetlands priority plan required under the Federal Emergency Wetlands Conservation Act.

Upcoming public workshops include the following:

### Saipan/Northern Islands

Monday, Aug. 5, Saipan Community Services Building

– Multi-Purpose Center

■ 9am–11am: Agency/government stakeholders

■ 5pm–7pm: general public

### Rota

Tuesday, Aug. 6, 2019

Sinapalo Youth Center

■ 3pm–6pm: Agency/government stakeholders and the general public

### Tinian

Thursday, Aug. 8, 2019

Tinian Public Library

■ 3pm–5:30pm: Agency/government stakeholders and the general public

For more information about the development of CNMI's SCORP or how to get involved and contribute, and to take the online survey, visit the project website at [www.cnmi-scorp.com](http://www.cnmi-scorp.com). (PR)



CNMI DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE



## FREE Small Business Development Workshops

LEARN MORE ABOUT BANK OF HAWAII'S  
SMALL BUSINESS REVITALIZATION & DEVELOPMENT  
GRANT &  
THE ABC'S OF CREDIT

Wednesday, July 31, 2019

5:00 PM—7:00PM

Location: Bank of Hawaii Gualo Rai

Presented by: Rose Sumor, Bank of Hawaii Vice President, Branch Manager, CNMI Branch

Starting a home-based or micro-business? Need working capital or purchasing inventory? Do you know what and how important "credit" is? What does your credit report tell your creditors, even potential employers, and why does it matter? In this seminar, you'll learn the answers to those questions, as well as how to ensure that you build or maintain a good credit score. You'll also learn how to get your credit lines back under your control, or, if that's too overwhelming, where to find help. While every credit situation is unique, The ABC's of Credit will provide you with a foundation of knowledge so that you can take control of one of your most important financial assets – your credit worthiness.

### YOUR PARTNER FOR SUCCESS

Supported by: Bank of Hawaii

Limited Seating. Register now at:

<https://pisbdcn.ecenterdirect.com/events/4395>.

For more information or to reserve your seats today, contact the CNMI SBDC at 670-664-3018 or visit [www.pacificsbdc.com](http://www.pacificsbdc.com)

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# How's Your Hearing?

## Specializing in:

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- Custom Communication Devices

■ Tuesday, July 30<sup>th</sup> 9:00am - 4:00pm  
at Marianas Medical Center in Garapan



Ross  
Hearing  
Aids

All interested patients should call  
Marianas Medical Clinic for scheduling  
**234-3925/7**  
Most Insurance Accepted



Jennifer Ross, BC-HIS  
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Instrument Sciences  
Email: [rosshearingaids@yahoo.com](mailto:rosshearingaids@yahoo.com)

# Opinion

Hafa Adair

## Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER  
Volume XXIX, Issue No. 149Published daily at 2/F JP Center,  
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AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

### EDITORIAL

## What now, Democrats?

**F**ormer special counsel Robert Mueller had warned that if he were summoned to testify before Congress, he wouldn't elaborate on the conclusions in his 448-page report about Russian interference in the 2016 election and President Trump's attempts to undermine the special counsel's investigation.

And for the most part Wednesday, he didn't, despite prodding from members of Congress. He stuck to the script wherever possible, responding carefully and slowly, and declined to be drawn into the partisanship that gripped the room.

That didn't make it boring, however. It was hard not to be shocked again by the damning and sordid findings from his dense, two-volume report. Anyone tuning in should have been appalled anew by the dramatic lengths the president went to stop the probe into possible obstruction of justice, as well as the efforts that his campaign staff took to capitalize on Russian meddling.

But by sticking to the script, Mueller denied Congress and the country an answer to the central question left hanging by his investigation: Did he believe that Trump obstructed justice? And would he have pursued a case against Trump if there weren't a Justice Department opinion holding that a sitting president can't be indicted?

A clear answer to that question would have helped the public reject the president's incessant and misleading claims that the two-year investigation had found no wrongdoing on his part. More important, it would have helped the House of Representatives decide whether to launch an impeachment inquiry.

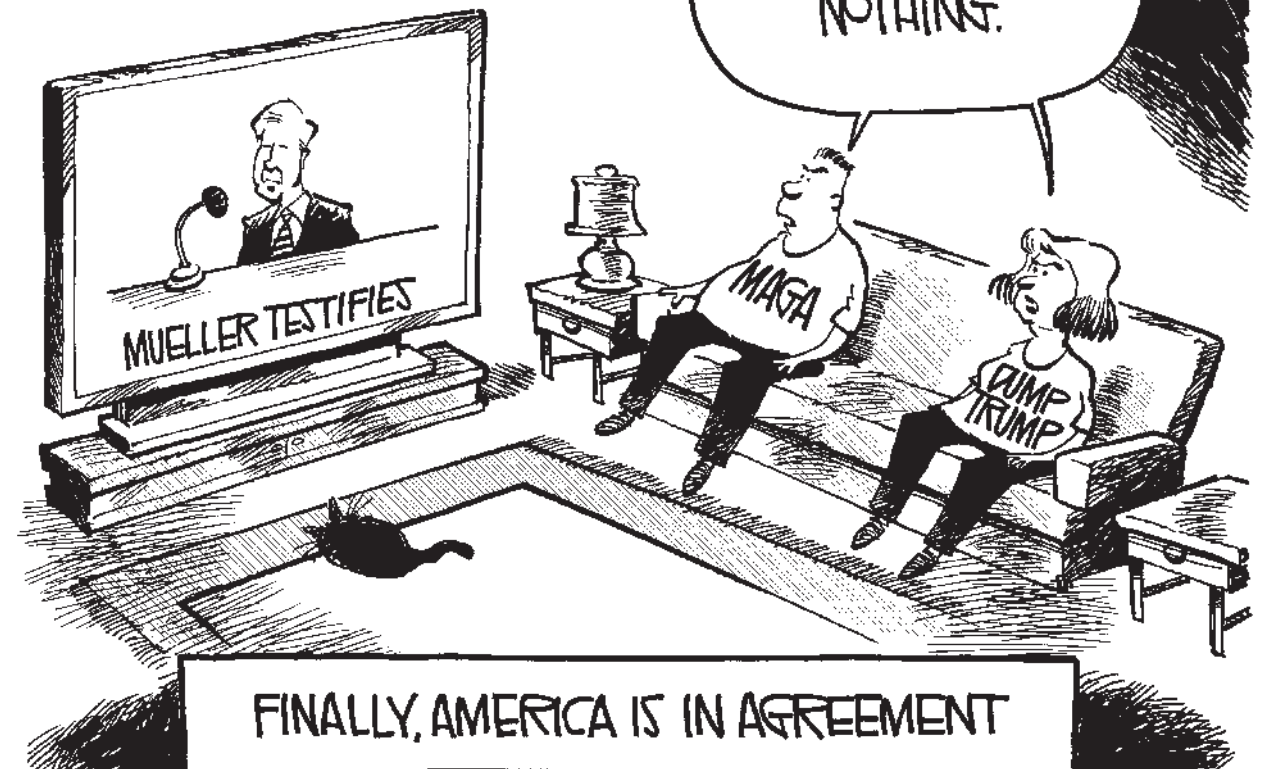
For a brief moment during Mueller's testimony before the Judiciary Committee, it seemed that he had decided to resolve the ambiguity. When Rep. Ted Lieu (D-Torrance) asked him if the opinion by the department's Office of Legal Counsel that a sitting president cannot be prosecuted was the reason he hadn't indicted Trump, Mueller answered: "That is correct."

But when Mueller testified later Wednesday before the House Intelligence Committee, he amended his answer to Lieu, saying: "What I wanted to clarify is the fact that we did not make any determination with regard to culpability in any way." This brought Mueller's position back to the seemingly contradictory conclusions of his report, where Mueller said that because of the Office of Legal Counsel's opinion and other "difficult issues," he couldn't make "a traditional prosecutorial judgment" about Trump.

The former special counsel did make one point exceptionally clear, despite efforts by Republicans on the committee to muddy the waters: Contrary to Trump's many claims, the report "does not exonerate him."

Wednesday's proceedings should serve as a reminder of just how unsavory and disturbing the whole episode was: that the president of the United States was elected with the "sweeping and systematic" help of a foreign adversary; that he repeatedly cheered that foreign power on; that there are numerous examples of ways in which he sought to undermine or obstruct the investigation into Russia's behavior (even if Mueller is loath to acknowledge that). Hundreds of former federal prosecutors, unburdened by Mueller's ethical restraints, have come forward to say that there would be grounds for obstruction of justice charges if Trump were a regular citizen rather than America's commander-in-chief.

See DEMOCRATS on Next Page

MIKE SMITH  
LAS VEGAS SUN 2019  
DISTRIBUTING FEATURES  
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## Try a reverse Mueller report

**T**he predawn attack struck without warning—bullseye! It looked like many others that were the work of a foreign adversary. Yet it wasn't until mid-morning Wednesday when the dead-center hit was discovered by the intended target—me.

And I only discovered the attack because I looked away from my big-screen, where former special counsel Robert Mueller was on TV testifying at a House Judiciary Committee hearing, to check whether anything urgent was happening on my small screen.

On the big screen, Mueller began by saying "...our investigation found that the Russian government interfered in our election in a sweeping and systematic fashion..."

Glancing at my small screen, while listening to Mueller, I discovered the email that hit my inbox at 1:07 a.m.. It looked like, and read like, precisely the sort of weaponized disinformation emails Mueller was speaking about. The sender was an email address I've come to recognize; it's one that frequently blast-emails these things to an apparently long list. The content read like another of those conspiracy screeds that could have been made in Moscow and was still being sent around by folks who were fooled into thinking the message is the real deal (when it is not!).

The first sentence was about the Clinton Foundation; soon it got to Bill and Hillary and Comey and Obama and all the usual suspects from the old "Casablanca." At its top and tail was the usual urgent appeal to send this on to everyone everywhere.

As Mueller is testifying on TV, I do what I have often done with those emails: I go online and find that once again, the validators at Snopes.com know all about this one and have labeled it "False." A standard conspiracy theory canard. Precisely the sort of thing Mueller's report warned us about. Russia's military intelligence operatives have mastered the craft of making up and spreading such disinformation (see also: lies). They know how to make their Braunschweiger sound real enough to fool those who are gullible or easily drawn to conspiracy yarns.

Their goal is to divide our citizens and shatter our democracy. And other global adversaries, ranging from the Chinese, Iranians and stateless spreaders of terror, have been going to school on Russia's incipient successes in manipulating our election system.

Later Wednesday afternoon, Mueller, while testifying at his second hearing that day, at the House Intelligence Committee, is asked the carefully leading question about whether Russia's 2016 campaign interference was a one-time thing. "It wasn't a single attempt," Mueller says. "They're doing it as we sit here." Yep.

But the real question that remains unanswered is: Will we de-

**By MARTIN SCHRAM**  
Tribune News Service

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mand that our leaders, especially the Republicans who control the Senate and of course the executive branch, do anything other than just sit there while the Russians (and others) are doing whatever they want to manipulate the electorate and even the election machinery of our democracy?

On Wednesday, after Mueller testified, Senate Republicans blocked two Democratic efforts to get unanimous approval of two common-sense bills to simply put into law what FBI directors have always said should be done by everyone in campaign politics: If a foreign operative offers to provide assistance to any U.S. political campaign, the campaign official involved should contact the FBI immediately.

That is only controversial because it is precisely what Donald Trump Jr. failed to do when Russians contacted him and promised to give him with "dirt" on Hillary Clinton. The Senate's Republican leaders clearly don't want to anger their ultimate leader, President Trump.

Meanwhile, House Republicans weren't reluctant to persistently attack Mueller, who has devoted his life to serving America, even when it seemed clear Wednesday that his battles have taken a toll. A Vietnam War hero who earned a Bronze Star for braving fire to rescue a wounded fellow Marine and who then led the FBI during challenging times, Mueller seemed halting and much older than his 74 years. Yet Republican congressmen pounded him with questions they sprung like political traps.

Still, the devoutly apolitical Mueller braved their political fire, determined to warn his politically divided United States that Russians are still attacking and seeking to sabotage our democracy.

Meanwhile, here's an exercise we all can take to test how willing we are to defend our democracy: (1) Download and digitize the massive Mueller report; (2) Search and replace "Donald Trump" with "Hillary Clinton," "Hillary Clinton" with "Donald Trump," "Republican" with "Democrat," "Democrat" with "Republican;" (3) Read your new document.

Now ask yourself: Would you vote to impeach a President Hillary Clinton on the basis of your new reverse Mueller report?

**EDITORIAL POLICY**

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com); or through our website at [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com).

## 7 tips for a rock-solid JV agreement

Everything was good—until it wasn't. Sam knew how to make the product; John understood how to run the business. Together they were going to make a pile of money.

And they did—for a time. But John started slipping: He missed meetings, lost accounts, and did not fully document expenses. And then Sam's wife filed for a divorce, demanding half of Sam's stake in the business plus a voice in how it operated. John, in turn, wanted nothing to do with Sam's marital dramas, and asked that Sam and his wife buy out his interest.

What a mess. But Sam and John's experience is more common than you might think. People miscommunicate. People underperform. And people get divorced. When one of these, or a myriad of other difficulties arise, what should happen? If you have a thorough joint venture agreement, then you'll know the answer well before the difficulty arises. But if you are like most businesses, then the answer is anyone's guess.

So, what should Sam and John have done? You got it: When they started their business, they should have documented how they would handle key issues and other common scenarios.

Below are seven key issues and common scenarios that your JV agreement should address.

First, and most important, the agreement should explain the relationship between the parties. In other words, what is each person's role in the company? In Sam and John's case, for instance, Sam made the product while John handled operations and accounting.

This category can go a step further and specify the level of duty that each party owes to the other. In most cases, the partners will merely need to act in good faith toward each other. But, in other cases, the parties may have a fiduciary duty (where they must act in the interest of the other party—even at the expense of their own interest).

To see why the standard matters, consider an example. Assume that John learned of an exciting business opportunity that

was in the JV's wheelhouse. Can John pursue the opportunity without bringing the opportunity to the JV first? It depends. If he has a fiduciary duty, then he needs to present the opportunity to the JV. But if there's no fiduciary duty, then he can seize the opportunity on his own.

Second is similar to the first: decision-making. What can each partner (and key employees) do by themselves? And what things require greater approval? For example, it's common to require majority (or super-majority) approval from the partners before the JV borrows money, settles a lawsuit, buys a different business, sells significant JV assets, or fires a senior employee.

Third, the JV agreement should list what each partner is contributing to the venture. The most-obvious example is how much cash they invest. But partners can contribute in other ways too. Maybe one partner invests land or equipment while another contributes their expertise, network, or reputation.

Fourth, the venture will eventually make money—or lose it. And, so, the JV agreement should say how profits and losses will be apportioned. Will each partner receive an amount proportional to their ownership interest in the JV? Or will profits and losses be divvied up in a different fashion?

Fifth, as sure as rainbows follow rain, one of the partners will want to cash out their chips at some point. So, the JV agreement should say whether a partner can sell and, if so, how. Maybe the selling partner needs to give the non-selling partners a chance to buy the selling partner's interest. Perhaps the selling partner can shop his interest to outside parties, and then once he has an offer, give the non-selling partners the chance to match the offer. Or maybe something else.

Sixth, humans disagree. It's in our nature. JV partners are no different. Thus, it's wise for a JV agreement to explain how intractable disputes will be handled. Normally, people prefer some combination of mediation and arbitration over litigation for resolving disputes because mediation and arbitration are confidential and faster than litigation.

By **JORDAN SUNDELL**

Special to the Saipan Tribune



*Jordan Sundell is a lawyer primarily practicing business and real-estate law. He formerly worked for the CNMI Supreme Court and Bridge Capital and is now general counsel for several real-estate companies, including JZ Group. His columns—focused mainly on real estate and small business—are published every other Tuesday. [jsundell@jzgroupinc.com](mailto:jsundell@jzgroupinc.com)*

Seventh, nothing good lasts forever, including profitable joint ventures. And, so, JV agreements should plan for the end at the beginning. For instance, under what circumstances will the venture end? When a partner dies? When someone violates the JV agreement in a significant way? And if such an event occurs, will the venture automatically end?

Listing events that can end the venture is advisable. But making those events automatic triggers for terminating the venture is not. That's because automatic dissolution can lead to unintended consequences. Better to give the partners discretion when key events happen.

If you've read this far, and address the seven points above in your JV agreement, you've gone a long way toward establishing clear expectations and avoiding disputes. But just because this article makes a JV agreement sound simple does not mean that they are. To the contrary, they involve dozens, if not hundreds, of important decisions. In short, they are not a do-it-yourself endeavor. Please get help from an attorney who specializes in business contracts.

*This column is for informational purposes only and is not intended to be taken as legal advice. For your specific case, consult a lawyer.*

## Is the political cartoonist an endangered species?

Here's how I define unnerving times: When professionals who write, draw or talk about current events for a living worry that if they dare create anything satiric, mocking or funny, they'll be laid off, shut down, let go or put through the wringer.

America's—and the world's—increasing inability to tolerate irony, dissonance and humor is enough to make you bite your tongue or, worse, put your pencil down, as if democracy's test has just been declared at an end.

I'm particularly worried about the future of political cartoonists.

The best political cartoonists, like gunslingers, have always been able to hit their mark every time they draw. They've been doing this for hundreds of years. But as of this spring, they're

not doing it for the pages of the international edition of the New York Times anymore.

Even one frame of a single political cartoon is considered too dangerous for traditional sources to risk running them. Newspapers apparently fear being hit in the crossfire when The Outraged fire back.

In the Middle East (I'm thinking particularly of Saudi Arabia, where you can go to jail for making fun of the royal family), and now in North America (I'm thinking particularly of the brouhaha over Michael de Adder's cartoon depicting a golfing Trump "playing through" the bodies of the father and daughter lying dead in the water at the U.S. border), The Outraged are what Mr. Trump calls "cocked and loaded."

Most often they fire back through the internet, either acting like robots or using actual robots to send what are often exactly the same messages to editors, editorial board members or advertising departments, promising to bring upon their heads the full force of destruction, either metaphorically or literally.

"The internet is the world's biggest bully—and a stupid one, like Bluto." Invoking Popeye's huge and dumb antagonist, my friend Gene Weingarten, a two-time Pulitzer Prize winner who writes for The Washington Post, said that the internet "derives this power both because of its sheer size, and because of the cowardly license conferred by anonymity. The best cartoonists are still good and the great cartoonists are the most fearless ones—a stance that is harder and harder to take because of a sad third variable. The news industry is financially distressed, meaning threats by the Blutos carry extra menace."

Longtime and influential political cartoonist, Bob Englehart—who was once a regular at my hometown paper and whose work is now available at Patreon—is quick to add that "The internet is not the only thing killing newspapers. Newspapers are doing from the inside. To be sure, there are plenty of courageous editors and publishers still on the watchtower of the First Amendment, but they're dwindling fast."

By **GINA BARRECA**

The Hartford Courant



*Gina Barreca is a board of trustees distinguished professor of English literature at the University of Connecticut and the author of 10 books. She can be reached at [www.ginabarreca.com](http://www.ginabarreca.com).*

Ed Wexler, a political cartoonist whose work I've written about in earlier columns not only because he is renowned but because we've been friends since high school, told me that he, too, "sometimes has concerns" when his Trump cartoons are extreme. "I've received some hate mail—but there's still a lot of fun in having a platform in the national discussion."

I feel the same was as Ed Wexler does, and I don't think that's only because we attended Oceanside High School in the mid-1970s. As a woman who writes humor, I also get hate mail but nevertheless get a kick out of being in the conversation.

Yet I don't want those kicks to become literal. And I want to be able, with a clear conscience, when talking to the most disengaged and cynical young people, to argue that creativity, originality, insight and a quick wit are essential to our nation's civic health.

Mary Lou Solomon, who taught art for more than 20 years, put it this way: "Artists, regardless of the medium they choose, are the rebels of their times, and they instantly and viscerally 'show people what they didn't know they needed to know.'"

Finally, Mark Twain's Mysterious Stranger argued that "Power, money, persuasion, supplication, persecution" can be weakened a little over centuries "but only laughter can blow it to rags and atoms at a blast" because "Against the assault of laughter, nothing can stand."

Humor is created and appreciated when people are free.

## DEMOCRATS

From Page 10






Congress has to figure out what to do next, and the decision is a tough one. This page has said on several occasions that impeachment raises its own problems. The biggest of those is that the U.S. Senate is controlled by partisan Republicans who have made it quite clear they would not convict Donald Trump if he were impeached in the House. So impeachment proceedings would almost certainly be symbolic. More than that, they would be terribly polarizing, causing giant new partisan rifts in a country that is already badly divided.

Whatever the House finally does, we hope that voters were watching Wednesday, that they are now well-informed about the last election campaign and the events that followed, and that, come what may, they will remember those facts on Election Day 2020.

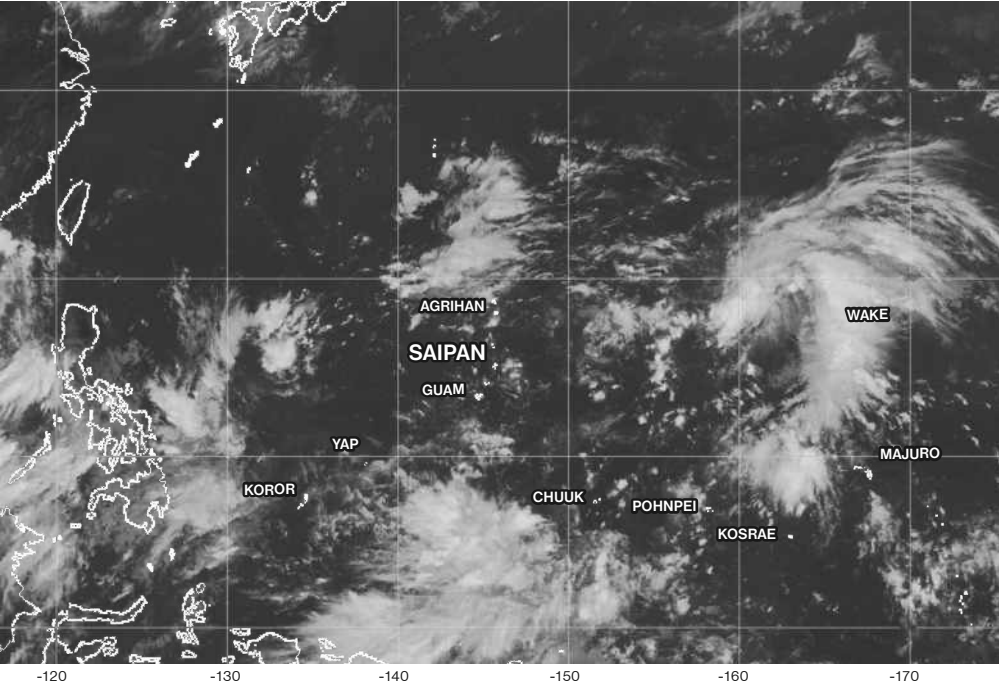
(c)2019 Los Angeles Times

# The Weather

## 5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY	
									
Mostly cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms. Light and variable winds		Mostly cloudy. Isolated showers. Light and variable winds.		Mostly cloudy. Isolated showers. Light and variable winds.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	
88°	77°	88°	77°	88°	77°	88°	77°	88°	77°

## YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 6:20 AM, MONDAY, JULY 29, 2019

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A few showers are seen across the area with light southwest to west winds. A weak monsoon trough remains perched across the Philippine Sea and over the far northern Marianas.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

MICRONESIA			▲▼°F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorm	88° / 79°	
Palau	Thunderstorm	83° / 77°	
Yap	Thunderstorm	85° / 79°	
Chuuk	Thunderstorm	86° / 79°	
Pohnpei	Thunderstorm	86° / 77°	
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	86° / 77°	
Majuro	Thunderstorm	85° / 79°	

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲▼°F
Auckland	Thunderstorm	52° / 46°	
Beijing	Thunderstorm	97° / 73°	
Hong Kong	Thunderstorm	88° / 81°	
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	89° / 78°	
London	Showers	70° / 61°	
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	83° / 66°	
Manila	Thunderstorm	88° / 79°	
Melbourne	Sunny	55° / 41°	
Miami	Thunderstorm	87° / 80°	
New York	Sunny	92° / 75°	
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	91° / 79°	
Paris	Partly Cloudy	79° / 57°	
Busan	Mostly Sunny	84° / 75°	
Rome	Mostly Sunny	88° / 68°	
Salem	Mostly Sunny	91° / 70°	
San Francisco	Windy	62° / 53°	
Seoul	Showers	79° / 63°	
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	91° / 79°	
Washington, DC	Sunny	95° / 74°	



### NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PAPA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.net](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.net)

## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 27, 2019

DEPARTURES			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
UA117	9:15am	10:00am	Daily
UA105	6:25pm	7:05pm	2, 4

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)			
7C3451	3:30am	6:30am	4
7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
TW308	1:35am	5:20am	Daily
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:35am	1, 2, 3, 5, 7
7C3403	5:00am	8:30am	4
7C3403	5:00am	8:50am	6
7C3401	4:10pm	7:45pm	4, 7
7C3401	4:10pm	8:10pm	1, 2, 3, 5, 6

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	6:10am	8:50am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)			
JD396	7:30am	12:05pm	1
JD396	4:50pm	7:55pm	4

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:30am	7:50am	2, 6

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)			
MU764	1:30am	6:00am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA117/183	9:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA117/183	9:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA117/193	9:15am	10:40pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:40am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:35am	8:25am	1
UO43	5:50am	8:40am	3, 5, 7
UA117/159	9:15am	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS			
GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA174	7:30am	8:15am	Daily
UA104	4:50pm	5:31pm	2, 4

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3452	9:35pm	2:30am+1	3

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
7C3402	9:30am	3:10pm	Daily
TW307	7:00pm	12:35am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
TW307	7:05pm	12:35am+1	1
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	1, 2, 4, 6, 7
7C3404	10:40pm	4:10am+1	3, 5

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:20pm	4:50am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN			
JD395	8:05am	3:30pm	4
JD395	8:50pm	5:00am+1	7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:50pm	2:40am+1	1, 5

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA192/174	9:45pm	8:12am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA184/174	10:25pm	8:12am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/174	11:30pm	8:12am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:20pm	00:30am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:25pm	1:20am+1	7
UO42	9:25pm	4:20am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/174	10:45pm	8:12am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. (The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

## STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily

1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

# Island Snapshots



## AGRICULTURE FAIR

Spectators check out replicas of sea turtles as a Department of Lands and Natural Resources program manager explains the life of the sea turtles during last Saturday's 36th Annual Agriculture Fair at the Garapan Central Park Roundhouse.

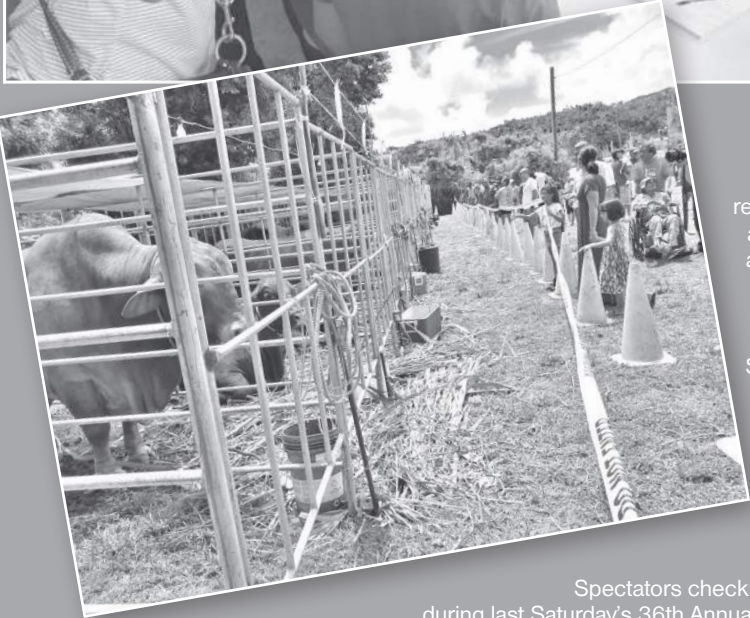
MARC VENUS



MARC VENUS Spectators look at the chickens and ducks on display at last Saturday's 36th Annual Agriculture Fair at the Garapan Central Park Roundhouse.



MARC VENUS This was the winning entry in the goat portion of the livestock division at last Saturday's 36th Annual Agriculture Fair at the Garapan Central Park Roundhouse.



MARC VENUS Spectators check out the cattle and pigs during last Saturday's 36th Annual Agriculture Fair at the Garapan Central Park Roundhouse.



## NMTI GALA

Many from the island's private sector come out to support the Northern Marianas Trades Institute's fourth annual fundraising gala last Friday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan ballroom.

KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA



KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA Hyatt Regency Saipan general manager Nick Nishikawa, middle, is joined by other hotel executives after being presented with plaques of recognition during the NMTI's fourth annual fundraising gala last Friday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan ballroom.



**MPLT LOAN BILL** OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR Acting governor Arnold I. Palacios, seated center, is joined by Marianas Public Land Trust trustees Martin Ada, seated left, and Frica Pangelinan, seated right, and members of the 21st Legislature at the Office of the Governor's conference room last Friday after signing House Bill 21-44, HS1 into law.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR Acting governor Arnold I. Palacios signs House Bill 21-44, HS1 into law last Friday, as Marianas Public Land Trust trustees Martin Ada and Frica Pangelinan look on. The new law authorizes a loan between the Commonwealth government and the MPLT in the amount of \$15 million. The bill now becomes Public Law 21-3.



# Business

## XO Market goes bigger and better

By BEA CABRERA  
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com  
CORRESPONDENT

XO Market located along Middle Road believes that providing an enjoyable grocery experience and high-quality food are key drivers for keeping its regular customers happy.

In November of last year, XO Market moved to a bigger space, almost triple the size of its former store, according to its store manager. "We used to rent our space and after eight years, we decided to build our own which is just next to our old space," she said.

"The bigger space has also allowed us to add more products into our inventory and our customers love it because we get feedback that there are food items and non-food items that they can only get from our store," she added.

The bright lights, high ceilings, and wider spaces in the grocery definitely boosts the shopping experience of XO Market customers by making everything easily visible and accessible.

The store manager recalls, her company started in the grocery business in 2005 on Tinian. "In 2010, we got an offer to buy and have control and management of XO Market on Middle Road from its former owner... it was a good opportunity because of the big space of the supermarket and it was in a good location so we went for it," she said.

"To date, XO is known in the community to have cheaper products than other groceries and supermarkets because we get our supplies direct from the mainland. Some 80% of our frozen



XO Market's fruits and vegetables section.

PHOTOS BY BEA CABRERA



XO Market moved into a new building with bigger floor area and high ceilings just beside its former building along Middle Road.



The new XO Market with its high ceiling and wider space makes grocery shopping a good experience.

products like meat, seafood, and poultry we get direct from the source so they are guaranteed fresh," she added.

XO Market also has a wide array of fresh vegetables and dry items that they get directly from the source—both

local and mainland. To date, their customers range from residents to hotels and restaurants.

XO Market is open from Monday to Sunday from 6:30am to 12am. For more information, call (670) 2359168.

## US, China revive trade talks with low hopes for progress

**BEIJING (AP)**—Two months after U.S.-Chinese talks aimed at ending a tariff war broke down, both sides are trying to temper hopes for a breakthrough when negotiations resume Tuesday on an array of disputes that has grown to include tension over Chinese tech giant Huawei.

Rhetoric on both sides has hardened despite the agreement by Presidents Donald Trump and Xi Jinping in June to revive efforts to end the costly fight over China's technology ambitions and trade surplus.

"I don't know if they're going to make a deal," Trump said Friday. "Maybe they will, maybe they won't. I don't care." He repeated his claim that the United States is pro-

pering by "taking in tens of billions of dollars" from his tariff hikes on Chinese products. In reality, those are paid by U.S. companies and consumers who buy Chinese goods.

Mnuchin and Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer are due to meet Tuesday and Wednesday in Shanghai with a delegation led by China's economy czar, Vice Premier Liu He.

Chinese leaders are resisting U.S. pressure to roll back plans for government-led development of industry leaders in robotics, artificial intelligence and other technologies. Washington complains those efforts depend on stealing or pressuring foreign companies to hand over technology. Some American officials wor-

ry the U.S. is losing its lead.

For their part, American negotiators have resisted Beijing's demand that they remove all punitive tariffs immediately. Washington wants to keep some in place to ensure China keeps its promises.

"The same issues that caused the talks to break down are still there," said Julian Evans-Pritchard of Capital Economics.

"Neither side seems any closer to offering major concessions," said Evans-Pritchard. "It's very hard to see how they can reach a deal this time if they were unable to do that in March."

U.S. priorities include "industrial policy issues such as intellectual property rights, forced

technology transfer and subsidies for (Chinese) state-owned enterprises," said Jeff Moon, a former U.S. diplomat and trade official who specialized in China. "Enforcing any agreements is also a top priority."

The June agreement to resume negotiations helped to calm jittery financial markets despite warnings by economists that with both sides still far apart on critical issues, the fragile truce likely will soon fall apart.

Tensions worsened when, after talks broke down in May, the Trump administration imposed curbs on U.S. technology sales to Huawei, the biggest global maker of network gear for phone companies and the No. 2 smartphone brand. U.S. officials view Huawei as

a national security threat and warn that its equipment could be used for cyberespionage.

Beijing retaliated by announcing it would create its own list of "unreliable entities" subject to unspecified controls. Authorities have yet to announce which companies might be targeted.

Trump has suggested he would consider easing up on Huawei if it meant getting a better trade deal.

"Trump—in his eagerness to find negotiating leverage—linked national security and trade with regard to Huawei to create a new bargaining chip," Moon said. Members of Congress from both parties likely would object to any concessions on Huawei.

## Food truck alliance offers free meals to homeless teens

**SPOKANE, Wash. (AP)**—An alliance of food trucks in Spokane, Washington is offering free meals this summer to homeless students who normally rely on free and reduced-price school lunches during the school year.

The pilot program gives free meals to 58 homeless students who use punch cards for food at the trucks during the 11-week summer break, The Spokesman-Review reported Saturday.

Students can get up to five hot meals a week—or 55 total—over the summer at any of more than 30 participating food trucks. Forty-five of the students also got bus passes to travel to the food trucks' locations.

Food truck owners are donating the cost of a meal, typically priced at \$10 or \$11 and it's estimated that the business will give away a combined \$30,000 in food to needy teens this summer.

"This started right when they got out of school," said Tony Epefano, owner of Mixed Plate Food Truck & Catering and president of a food truck association. "How awesome would it be if we don't hear about any kids going hungry this summer?"

Spokane Valley Partners and the Greater Spokane Food Truck Association Gives Back nonprofit worked with schools to launch an extension of Spokane Valley Partner's school-year food program.

During the academic year, Spokane Valley Partners provides food that schools give to needy students to take home on weekends. The agency serves 22 schools and about 500 students during the school year, said Cal Coblentz, the agency's CEO.

But that stops when school does.

"The schools came to us and said some of these students are starting to panic a little bit," Coblentz said.

"For some of these students, it's critical because we have identified over 50 teenagers who are legitimately homeless in the Valley with no family or who are separated from families, just out on their own on the streets or surfing couches."

Epefano, of the food truck association, said he hopes the program will be successful and can be expanded next year.

Teens appear to be regularly using their punch cards, and he plans to get an official count by the season's end, he said.

# Nation

## Shooting at California garlic festival kills 3, injures 12

**GILROY, Calif.** (AP)—Three people were killed and 12 others injured Sunday after a shooting that sent panicked people running at an annual food festival in Northern California, according to a city official.

The shooting occurred during the three-day celebration featuring food, cooking competitions and music that attracts more than 100,000 people. Sunday was the final day of this year's event. Gilroy Councilman Dion Bracco told The Associated Press the number of dead and injured is a preliminary figure.

Witnesses reported confusion and panic as shots rang out at the Gilroy Garlic Festival in the city of 50,000 located about 80 miles (176 kilometers) southeast of San Francisco.

The band Tin Man was just starting an encore when shots rang out.

Singer Jack van Breen said he saw a man wearing a green shirt and grayish handkerchief around his neck fire into the food area with what looked like an assault rifle.

Van Breen and other members of the band dove under the stage. Van Breen says he heard someone shout: "Why are you doing this?" and the reply: "because I'm really angry."



Gilroy Garlic festival volunteer Denise Buessing, left, embraces fellow volunteer Marsha Struzik at a reunification center in a parking lot at Gavilan College following a deadly shooting at the annual food festival in Gilroy, Calif., Sunday, July 28, 2018. AP

His bandmate Vlad Malinovsky from Walnut Creek, California, said he heard a lot of shots and then it stopped. Later, law enforcement came by and told the band members

and others hiding with them to come out with their hands up.

Stanford Medical Center has two patients being treated from the shooting at the Gilroy Garlic Festival, spokeswoman

Julie Greicius said. She had no details on their injuries or

conditions. Santa Clara Valley Medical Center received

five victims, spokeswoman Joy Alexiou said. She also had no information on their conditions.

Evenny Reyes of Gilroy, 13, told the newspaper that she spent the day at the festival with her friends and relatives.

"We were just leaving and we saw a guy with a bandana wrapped around his leg because he got shot. And there were people on the ground, crying," Reyes said. "There was a little kid hurt on the ground. People were throwing tables and cutting fences to get out."

Reyes said that she didn't run at first because the gunshots sounded like fireworks. "It started going for five minutes, maybe three. It was like the movies — everyone was crying, people were screaming."

Todd Jones, a sound engineer, told the newspaper that he was at the front of the festival's Vineyard stage when he heard what sounded like a firework. "But then it started to increase, more rapidly, which sounded more like gunfire, and at that point people realized what was happening," Jones said.

## Attorney: Hunger-striking immigrants forced to hydrate

**EL PASO, Texas** (AP)—Three Indian nationals seeking asylum in the U.S. have been forced to receive IV drips at a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement facility in Texas as they approach their third week of a hunger strike, according to their attorney.

Lawyers and activists who spoke with the men fear that force-feeding may be next.

The U.S. Department of Justice filed orders with federal judges last week that relate to non-consensual hydration or feeding for four men, according to a court official. Linda Corchado, the lawyer for three of the four men named in the court orders, said the fourth man is also Indian and is represented by another attorney. It's unclear if that man was also forced to accept an IV.

The men have been locked up for months—one for more than a year—and they are trying to appeal or reopen asylum claims that were denied, according to Corchado. As of Sunday, they had gone 20 days without food, she said.

"My clients made the decision to begin a hunger strike to protest prolonged detention and what they believe were biased and discriminatory practices by the immigration court toward their cases," Corchado said.

ICE confirmed that there were detainee hunger strikes at its facilities in El Paso and Otero, New Mexico, late last week, but it would not comment on the claims of forced hydration or force-feeding.

"All ten ICE detainees have missed at least nine consecutive meals, triggering ICE hunger-strike protocols," agency spokesman Timothy Oberle said in a statement. "The ICE Health Services Corps (IHSC) is medically monitoring the detainees' health and regularly updating ICE of their medical status. Efforts are being taken to protect the detainees' health and privacy."

One of the hunger strikers in Otero was deported to India eight days into his hunger strike, according to Corchado. ICE does not confirm deportations.

Corchado said her three clients stopped eating while they were at the Otero immigration detention facility to protest their prolonged detention. After more than a week of hunger striking, they were transferred to the El Paso Processing Center, which is about 30 miles (50 kilometers) south of Otero, in West Texas.

One of the men told the AP on Tuesday that he overheard medical staff say they were being transferred to El Paso for force-feeding.

On Thursday, Corchado met with her clients, who showed her IV equipment and needle pricks in their arms. She said they told her that medical staff showed them documents that they said were court orders for IV drips, but didn't give them copies. When the immigrants refused a protein-filled drink that would have effectively ended their hunger strikes, the medical staff started the IVs against their will.

ICE did not immediately reply to a request for comment Sunday regarding the forced hydration.

### ACROSS THE NATION

#### Pickup truck hits home, Kentucky woman in living room killed

**MARION, Ky.** (AP)—Police say a woman sitting in her living room was killed when a pickup truck struck her home in western Kentucky. State Police in Madisonville said in a news release that 72-year-old Mary C. Bass of Marion was pronounced dead after the crash Saturday night. The statement says a preliminary investigation shows a pickup truck driven by 43-year-old Christopher Hill of Marion failed to stop at an intersection, drove across a lawn and into the home. The crash remains under investigation. Marion is about 180 miles (290 kilometers) southeast of St. Louis, Missouri.

#### Police: 1998 Arkansas school shooter killed in crash

**JONESBORO, Ark.** (AP)—A man who was 11 years old in 1998 when he and a friend fatally shot four students and a teacher at their Arkansas middle school has died in a crash on a northeastern Arkansas highway, the State Police said. Drew Grant, 33, who had legally changed his name from

Andrew Golden and had been living in Jackson, Missouri, died at around 9 p.m. Saturday, television station KAIT reported. The vehicle he was driving crashed head-on into another vehicle on Highway 167 near Cave City, which is about 100 miles (160 kilometers) north of Little Rock. The driver of the second vehicle, identified as Daniel Petty, 59, of Essex, Missouri, was also killed in the crash, according to a State Police preliminary summary of the wreck. Three other people, including two adults and a child, were injured and taken to hospitals. The summary didn't say which vehicle they were in, how badly hurt they were or which vehicle was responsible for the crash. Golden and Mitchell Johnson, who were 11 and 13 respectively, set off a fire alarm on March 24, 1998 and shot at people as they evacuated from Westside Middle School in Jonesboro, which is about 120 miles (193 kilometers) northeast of Little Rock.

#### Boy, 10, found with gunshot wound after collapse at ballpark

**ALLENTOWN, Pa.** (AP)—A 10-year-old boy was shot

in the leg by a stray bullet Saturday while on the field at an eastern Pennsylvania baseball park, authorities said. The boy was in right field shortly before the IronPigs evening game at Coca-Cola Park when he fell to the ground. It wasn't until the boy received an X-ray at a hospital that it was determined he had been shot, police said. "The police officers we were speaking to last night felt pretty confident, with 99% certainty, that someone shot into the air and it was just the horrible misfortune that it landed where it did," IronPigs General Manager Kurt Landes told the Morning Call. No gunshots were heard in the area and there's no indication that the shot came from within the park, police said. The X-ray revealed that the boy had a bullet lodged in the back of the knee. He was taken to the trauma unit with an injury not considered life-threatening. "His mother has been very gracious and appreciative of our contact, and I think she's understandably frustrated with someone shooting a gun in the air," Landes said. The boy and other children were on the field for a promotional event for the IronPigs' Harry Potter Night when he was struck.

# Asia

## Police fire tear gas, rubber bullets at Hong Kong protesters

**HONG KONG (AP)**—Police repeatedly fired tear gas and rubber bullets to drive back protesters blocking Hong Kong streets with road signs and umbrellas Sunday in another night of pitched battles as protests for democracy in the Chinese territory escalate.

It was the second night in a row that tear gas was used against protesters. Their demonstrations began early last month in opposition to an extradition bill that has since been suspended, but the movement has become a broader push for full democracy.

Protesters occupied two areas at opposite ends of central Hong Kong on Sunday following a midafternoon rally against police use of tear gas at a demonstration the previous weekend.

On the western end of Hong Kong Island, one group blocked areas near the Chinese government's liaison office and began to move forward as night fell. Police issued warnings, and protesters threw eggs at them. Officers fired tear gas to halt the advance.

Police then embarked on an hourslong effort to push the protesters eastward and get them to disperse.

In repeated standoffs, spontaneous but highly organized protesters set up behind scaffolding that they built across a street. Police lined up behind clear shields about 30 meters (100 feet) down the road. Dozens of journalists in bright yellow vests stood on the side-



Protesters and journalists react to tear gas fired into a crowd on the streets of Hong Kong on Sunday, July 28, 2019.

lines between the groups.

The police would advance gradually, firing bursts of tear gas. Protesters in hard hats scurried about, rearranging makeshift barriers of pilfered road signs and other items. By the time the police reached the scaffolding, they had backed off about 6 meters (20 feet).

Another team of officers, more mobile with smaller shields, then swept in to clear the area. Local media reported some protesters were detained.

For more than seven weeks, protesters have taken to Hong Kong streets, initially to demand the scrapping of a proposed extradition law that would send suspects to mainland China to face trials. The legislation is seen as a threat to Hong Kong's freedoms that were guaranteed for 50 years when China took back control of the former British colony in 1997.

The bill was eventually suspended, but the protesters then called for the resignation of

the city's leader and an investigation into whether police have used excessive force in quelling the protests.

Underlying the movement is a push for full democracy in the city, whose leader is chosen by a committee dominated by a pro-Beijing establishment, rather than by direct elections.

Earlier Sunday, protesters rallied at a park in Hong

Kong's financial district before marching out in several directions despite not winning police approval for a public procession. It was the second straight day that protesters took to the streets without official permission.

A sea of black-shirted protesters, some with bright yellow helmets and masks but many with just backpacks,

streamed out of Chater Garden park. Chanting "Add oil," a phrase that roughly means "Keep up the fight," a huge crowd marched east down a wide thoroughfare.

They stopped near the Sogo department store and set up barricades to block off the area and defend it against police.

Another group headed west toward mainland China's liaison office. Protesters egged the office last weekend and splattered black ink on the national emblem, eliciting an angry reaction from the Chinese government.

Some stopped about two blocks short of the office and used orange and white construction barricades to build a wall spanning a major road. They massed behind the barriers as night fell, with umbrellas pointed forward to shield their identities and ward off any police move to clear them.

Some nearby stores shuttered early as police in riot gear gathered nearby ahead of the all but inevitable clearing operation.

The rally in Chater Garden was called to protest the police use of tear gas, rubber bullets and other force to break up a protest the previous Sunday.

"We need to have a protest to show that we are strongly against this kind of brutality and we need them to respond to our demands," said rally organizer Ventus Lau.

### ASIAN BRIEFS

#### Death toll in attack at Afghan political office rises to 20

**KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)**—The death toll from an attack against the office of the Afghan president's running mate and a former chief of the intelligence service in Kabul has climbed to at least 20 people, an official said Monday. Interior Ministry spokesman Nasrat Rahimi said that around 50 other people were wounded in Sunday's attack against the Green Trend party headquarters, which lasted hours and included a gun battle between the security forces and attackers holed up in the building. Several gunmen were killed by security forces, Rahimi said. The attackers' potential target, vice presidential candidate and former intelligence chief Amrullah Saleh, was "evacuated from the building and moved to a safe location," Rahimi said. Some 85 other civilians were also rescued from inside. No one immediately claimed responsibility for the attack, but both Taliban insurgents and the Islamic State group are active in the capital and have carried out attacks there in the past.

#### Myanmar holds repatriation talks with Rohingya refugees

**DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP)**—A Myanmar government delegation has met with representatives of hundreds of thousands of Rohingya Muslim refugees in Bangladesh to discuss creating conditions for their safe repatriation, officials said Sunday. Myanmar's permanent foreign secretary, U Myint Thu, led a 10-member

delegation for the weekend talks in refugee camps in Bangladesh's Cox's Bazar region. He said he told the refugees about the preparations being made for their repatriation and agreed to continue talks with them. "We will continue to discuss with the Bangladesh government at the ministerial level as well as the working level at the joint working group," U Myint Thu told reporters. "I will be meeting (Monday) with the Bangladesh foreign minister in Dhaka and then we will continue to discuss further on the repatriation process and at the ministerial level there will be a meeting in New York on the sidelines of the General Assembly ..." He said the Myanmar delegation will bring along representatives of ASEAN, a grouping of Southeast Asian nations, for the next round of talks with the refugees.

#### 2 transgender women tortured, killed in Pakistan

**MULTAN, Pakistan (AP)**—Police in Pakistan say they have found the bodies of two transgender women who were tortured and beaten to death. Senior officer Mohammad Ali Zia says the bodies were recovered late Saturday from a locked house in the Sahiwal district of the eastern Punjab province. He says it's unclear what motivated the killings, which appear to have taken place three days ago. Transgender people are often subjected to abuse in conservative, Muslim-majority Pakistan. They are also among the victims of so-called honor killings carried out by relatives to punish perceived sexual transgressions.

## Taliban reject talk of direct negotiations with government

**KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)**—An Afghan official said Sunday that the government would hold its first-ever direct talks with the Taliban within two weeks, but the insurgents quickly denied any such meeting was planned and reiterated their opposition to negotiating with government representatives in their official capacity.

The Taliban have been holding peace talks with the United States for nearly a year but have refused to recognize the Kabul government, viewing it as an American puppet.

Abdul Salam Rahimi, Afghanistan's state minister for peace affairs, said that a 15-member government delegation will meet with the Taliban in Europe, without elaborating.

Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said "there has been no agreement on such a meeting and that has not been coordinated with Taliban." He

said that once the insurgents reach an agreement with the U.S., they would be open to intra-Afghan talks, but any government representatives would have to participate in a personal capacity.

U.S. envoy Zalmay Khalilzad, who is currently visiting Kabul, appears to share that position. He tweeted that another round of "intra-Afghan" talks would occur "after we conclude our own agreements." He said it would include the Taliban and "an inclusive and effective national negotiating team consisting of senior government officials, key political party representatives, civil society and women."

Sunday marked the first day of campaigning for presidential elections scheduled for Sept. 28. President Ashraf Ghani is seeking a second term on promises of ending the 18-year war but has been largely sidelined over the past

year as the U.S. has negotiated directly with the Taliban. The two sides are aiming for an agreement in which American forces would withdraw in exchange for guarantees that Afghanistan will not be a launch-pad for international terror attacks.

The Taliban, who effectively control around half the country, have continued to carry out daily attacks on Afghan security forces.

A Taliban suicide bomber killed four police early Sunday in an attack on a police station in the eastern Ghazni province, according to Ahmad Khan Serat, a spokesman for the provincial police. He said 10 other police were wounded.

Elsewhere in Ghazni, a roadside bomb killed three civilians and wounded three others, Serat said. No one claimed the attack, and civilians are often killed or maimed by bombs targeting security forces.

# World

## Diplomats recommit to saving Iran deal, oppose US sanctions

**VIENNA (AP)**—Diplomats from Iran and five world powers recommitted Sunday to salvaging a major nuclear deal amid mounting tensions between the West and Tehran since the U.S. withdrew from the accord and reimposed sanctions.

Representatives of Iran, Germany, France, Britain, China, Russia and the European Union met in Vienna to discuss the 2015 agreement that restricts the Iranian nuclear program.

"The atmosphere was constructive, and the discussions were good," Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araghchi told reporters after the meeting ended.

"I cannot say that we resolved everything" but all the parties are still "determined to save this deal," he added.

Fu Cong, the head of Chinese delegation, said that while there were "some tense moments" during the meeting, "on the whole the atmosphere was very good. Friendly. And it was very professional."

Both diplomats said there was a general agreement to organize a higher-level meeting of foreign ministers soon, but also that preparations for such a summit needed to be done well. A date has not been set.

Iran is pressuring the European parties to the deal to



The European Union's political director Helga Schmid and Iran's deputy Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi, center from left, wait for a bilateral meeting as part of the closed-door nuclear talks with Iran at a hotel in Vienna, Austria, Sunday, July 28, 2019.

offset the sanctions U.S. President Donald Trump reinstated after pulling out. The country recently surpassed the amount of low-enriched uranium it is allowed to stockpile and started enriching uranium past a 3.67% limit permitted, to 4.5%, saying the actions could be reversed if the Europeans came up with incentives that compensated for the impact of the sanctions on the Iranian economy.

Iran's recent moves—which it defends as permissible after

the U.S. withdrawal—are seen as a way to force the others to openly confront the sanctions. Araghchi told reporters in Farsi after the meeting that Iran would continue decreasing its commitments until the Europeans meet its demands.

Experts warn that a higher enrichment level and a growing uranium stockpile narrow the one-year window that Iran would need to have enough material to make an atomic bomb, something Iran denies it wants

but that the deal prevented.

So far, Iran's exceeding of the agreement's stockpile and uranium enrichment ceilings have been seen as violations likely to prompt the European signatories to invoke a dispute resolution mechanism. Weapons-grade uranium is enriched at a level of 90%.

Both of Iran's actions were verified by the U.N.'s nuclear watchdog, the International Atomic Energy Agency.

In recent weeks, Iran broke past the limit on its stockpile of low-enriched uranium, but did not say by how much. The

nuclear accord has a stockpile limit of 300 kilograms. However, it also permits Iran to enrich uranium and export it, as it has to Russia in past years.

The head of Iran's Atomic Energy Organization said Sunday that the country has enriched 24 tons of uranium since it reached the 2015 nuclear deal with the other countries and the EU.

Atomic Energy Organization head Ali Akbar Salehi was quoted by state TV as saying Iran "did not enrich 300 kilograms of uranium, but enriched 24 (metric) tons of ura-

nium," or what is 24,000 kilograms (nearly 53,000 pounds.)

At the Sunday meeting, Fu said, the Europeans urged Iran to come back to full compliance and Iran urged the European Union, France, Britain and Germany to implement their part of the deal.

Fu said all sides expressed strong opposition against the unilateral imposition of sanctions by the U.S., especially the extraterritorial application of the sanctions. They also voiced support for China's efforts to maintain normal trade and oil relations with Iran, Fu added.

## Nearly 1,400 detained in Moscow protest; largest in decade

**MOSCOW (AP)**—Nearly 1,400 people were detained in a violent police crackdown on an opposition protest in Moscow, a Russian monitoring group said Sunday, adding that was the largest number of detentions at a rally in the Russian capital this decade.

Full Coverage: Russia  
OVD-Info, which has monitored police arrests since 2011, said the number of the detentions from Saturday's protest reached 1,373 by early Sunday. The overwhelming majority of people were soon released but 150 remained in custody, OVD-Info and a lawyers' legal aid group said Sunday.

Crackdowns on the anti-government protesters began days before the rally. Opposition leader Alexei Navalny was arrested and sentenced Wednesday to 30 days in jail for calling for Saturday's protest against election authorities who barred some opposition candidates from running in the Sept. 8 vote for Moscow city council.

Navalny was unexpectedly hospitalized Sunday with

a severe allergy attack, his spokeswoman said.

Kira Yarmysh said Navalny, who did not have any allergies beforehand, was taken from the Moscow jail to a hospital in the morning, arriving with severe facial swelling and red rashes. Hours later, she said Navalny was in a "satisfactory condition."

Russian police violently dispersed thousands of people who thronged the streets of Moscow on Saturday to protest the move by election authorities. Several protesters reported broken limbs and head injuries. Police justified their response by saying that the rally was not sanctioned by authorities.

Along with the arrests of the mostly young demonstrators, several opposition activists who wanted to run for the Moscow City Duma were arrested throughout the city.

Police eventually cordoned off the City Hall and dispersed protesters from the area, but thousands of demonstrators reassembled in several different locations nearby and a new round of arrests began. Russian police

beat some protesters to the ground with wide truncheon swings while others tried to push the police away.

Police said the protesters numbered about 3,500 but aerial footage from several locations suggested at least 8,000 people turned out.

Dmitry Gudkov, an opposition figure who was barred from running for city council office in Moscow, was detained Sunday afternoon as he delivered food to some of the Moscow protesters still in jail.

The U.S. Embassy in Moscow on Sunday decried the violent crackdown as "use of disproportionate police force" and the Russian presidential human rights council said it was concerned about the police brutality.

Russian President Vladimir Putin stayed away from Moscow over the weekend.

On Sunday, he led Russia's first major naval parade in years, going aboard one of the vessels in the Navy Day parade in St. Petersburg, on the Gulf of Finland. The parade included 43 ships and submarines and 4,000 troops.

## Italy: Teen held in officer's death 'illegally blindfolded'

**ROME (AP)**—An American teenager was illegally blindfolded before he was interrogated as a suspect in the slaying of a newlywed police officer in Rome, an Italian police commander said Sunday after the emergence of a photo showing the young tourist restrained with handcuffs and with his head bowed.

Gabriel Christian Natale-Hjorth, 18, was blindfolded "for a very few minutes, four or five" on Friday just before he taken to the interrogation in a police station about the fatal stabbing, Rome Provincial Cmdr. Francesco Gargaro told The Associated Press in a phone interview.

Natale-Hjorth and another suspect from California, 19-year-old Finnegan Lee Elder, remained jailed while Italians lined up outside a chapel to pay respects to Deputy Brigadier Mario Cerciello Rega. The 35-year-old officer had recently returned to duty on the Carabinieri paramilitary police force after a honeymoon.

The officer was attacked with a knife on a street close

to the teens' upscale hotel in Rome. An autopsy showed he had been stabbed 11 times.

"Whoever killed him is an animal," said the mayor of the officer's hometown, Somma Vesuviana. Mayor Salvatore Di Samo spoke after leaving a wake for the officer in a chapel close to the police station in Rome where he had worked for years.

The coroner concluded that the policeman bled to death, according to Italian news reports.

Hundreds of Romans lined up in silence to file past the officer's coffin. Among the mourners were his widowed bride, Rosa Maria Esilio, and Italian Premier Giuseppe Conte.

Cerciello was popular for warmly greeting residents of the neighborhood in historic Rome. He spent off-duty hours as a volunteer dishing out hot meals to the homeless in Rome's main station and accompanied ailing faithful to religious shrines, including in Lourdes, France.

Investigators allege Elder knifed the policeman during a struggle after Cerciello Rega and his partner, both plain-

clothes officers, identified themselves as police. The officers were following up on a report of a drug deal that allegedly involved the teens.

Authorities contend Natale-Hjorth repeatedly punched the other officer, who was not seriously hurt.

Police said Saturday that both Americans confessed to their roles in Cerciello Rega's death. Under Italian law, anyone who participated in a slaying can face murder charges.

Italian newspapers on Sunday published a photo of Natale-Hjorth with what appears to be a scarf covering his eyes and with his arms handcuffed behind his back as he sat in a chair at a police station. Police and prosecutors are conducting separate investigations of the blindfolding.

Blindfolding of a suspect "is illegal. It's not allowed," Gargaro said. The officer who put the blindfold on committed a "mistake" but did so to prevent Natale-Hjorth from seeing documents related to the investigation, the commander said.

# Focus

**J**AKARTA, Indonesia (AP)—Indonesia's president said in an interview that he wants to see the speedy construction of a giant sea wall around Jakarta to prevent the low-lying capital from sinking under the sea, lending renewed backing and a sense of urgency to a slow-moving and politically contested mega project.

President Joko Widodo and his government are up against a tight timetable, including a forecast by experts that at the current rate, one-third of Jakarta could be submerged by 2050.

The existential crisis facing the city is the culmination of decades of unfettered development, almost nonexistent urban planning and misrule by city politicians who have served private interests over those of the public.

Lacking a comprehensive piped water network, industry and homeowners have tapped into the city's aquifers, causing rapid subsidence in northern Jakarta, home to several million people.

In this area, the swampy ground has been sinking at an average of about 10 centimeters (4 inches) a year. Rising sea levels from a heated-up planet will

compound the problem in decades to come.

Widodo told The Associated Press on Friday that it's time to move ahead with the sea wall, a project the government first began to consider a decade ago. "This huge project will need to be done quickly to prevent Jakarta from sinking under the sea," he said in the interview at a humble restaurant serving spicy Indonesian dishes.

The president said he's determined to push through key projects and reforms, even if potentially unpopular, noting that he'll be less constrained by domestic politics in his second and final five-year term. Widodo was reelected earlier this year.

He also addressed other ambitious plans for Jakarta, a congested, polluted and sprawling metropolis of 10 million that swells to three times that number when counting those living in the larger metropolitan area.

Widodo reiterated that wants to build a new capital, suggesting it should be outside Indonesia's main island of Java, where 57 percent of the country's nearly 270 million people are concentrated.

"We want to separate the capital, the center of government and Jakarta as a business and economic

center," he said. "We don't want all the money existing only in Java. We want it to be outside Java as well."

Jakarta's vulnerability to flooding and earthquakes is also a factor, Widodo said. "We need to make sure our capital is safe from disasters," he said, without naming the location for the new capital.

The threats facing Jakarta are most visible in Muara Baru, a waterfront slum in the northwest of the city.

A sea wall along the shore is meant to protect the area's makeshift shacks against the waters of the Java Sea, but the concrete barrier — raised and reinforced after a major flood more than a decade ago — has developed cracks.

A steady trickle of seawater leaks through it, covering the street running alongside the wall with a shallow brackish brew. A half-submerged mosque on the bay side of the wall serves as a stark reminder of what could be in store for the entire area. Two women in the neighborhood said their homes are flooded frequently.

Jakarta has been described as one of the world's fastest sinking cities — a result of geographic misfortune and mismanagement. The city sits on swampy ground, with 13 heavily polluted rivers running through it. The main cause for the sinking is the over-extraction of groundwater. The weight of taller buildings being constructed

in recent years further compresses the ground.

Heri Andreas, an earth scientist at Indonesia's Bandung Institute of Technology, said that in some parts of northern Jakarta, the ground is already 2 to 4 meters (7 to 13 feet) below sea level and is sinking by as much as 20 centimeters (8 inches) a year.

"Jakarta keeps sinking," said Andreas, an expert in geodesy, or the measuring of the shape of the earth. "If subsidence continues at the same rate, 95 percent of northern Jakarta will be underwater by 2050."

He said water would cover about one-third of the city.

Andreas said it took time for his alarming forecasts to be taken seriously by Indonesian government officials, but that planning for a giant sea wall encircling Jakarta Bay began about a decade ago.

The \$42 billion project envisions three stages, starting with strengthening 30 kilometers (18 miles) of existing coastal dams and creating 17 artificial islands. This would be followed by building giant sea walls on the western and eastern sides of the bay.

However, implementation has been slow amid political arguments over the cost of the project and possible harm to the local fishing industry.

Andreas, who is occasionally consulted by the authorities and met with government officials last week, said he expects a scaled-back version of the giant sea wall to be built

for less than the initial budget.

In this scenario, a 20-kilometer-long (12-mile-long) wall would enclose part of the bay to protect the most vulnerable area, rather than a loop that was intended to be three times as long. This would buy time for the government to deal with the other areas later.

Local fishermen view the mega project with suspicion, fearing it will rob them of their livelihood.

In Muara Angke, a small fishing port in northern Jakarta, 63-year-old Pandi dismissed the warnings by scientists, arguing that occasional flooding is part of life on the waterfront.

Pandi, who uses a single name, catches mussels for a living, in an operation that provides a livelihood for about 30 people.

On Saturday, several men scooped their catch from a small boat into large vats they placed on open fires nearby. Once the mussels were cooked, the men dumped them onto the ground, where women removed the shells, preparing the mussels for sale.

Pandi said land reclamation already underway in the bay forced him to sail farther away from shore in search of mussels. He said he fears a giant sea wall could drive him out of business for good.

"If we can't work, we will suffer for a long time," he said. "Sinking" below water, he said, "is just part of the risk."



AP  
People walk near of a giant sea wall which is used as a barrier to prevent sea water from flowing into land and cause flooding in Jakarta, Indonesia, Saturday, July 27, 2019. Indonesia's President Joko Widodo said in an interview that he wants to see the speedy construction of the giant sea wall to save the low-lying capital of Jakarta from sinking under the sea, giving renewed backing to a long-delayed multi-billion-dollar mega project.

# Indonesia's leader says sinking Jakarta needs giant sea wall

By KARIN LAUB  
ASSOCIATED PRESS



AP  
A man fishes near an abandoned mosque in Jakarta, Indonesia, Saturday, July 27, 2019. Indonesia's President Joko Widodo said in an interview that he wants to see the speedy construction of the giant sea wall to save the low-lying capital of Jakarta from sinking under the sea, giving renewed backing to a long-delayed multi-billion-dollar mega project.

# Overdrive

By **BARRY SPYKER**  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Some may find the 2019 GMC Yukon XL as big as a house. At just under 19 feet long, they're not far off.

But it's just right for folks with big families, a slew of friends, a boat, horse or small home to lug around. It can seat as many as nine, tow up to 8,300 pounds and accommodate a virtual ton of cargo with 39 cubic feet of space in the back — and nearly 122 cubes with the second and third rows folded down.

All that enormous capability comes with sacrifices: maneuvering in mall parking lots and fuel economy, for starters.

At first glance, the Yukon XL, especially in Jet Black with gloss black wheels, looks like some sort of VIP or federal vehicle — or even maybe a hearse. It has a blacked-out honeycomb grille, gloss-black wheels and myriad chrome accents.

At nearly 6,000 pounds, it needs a brute of an engine. Not to worry: a 6.2-liter V-8 that

cranks out 420 horsepower and 460 pound-feet of torque. Yeah, that's enough to squeal the wheels and run to 60 mph in 6.4 seconds. A trailer brake controller and sway control help stabilize a load of more than four tons.

Beyond all the beef, what is notable about the top-line Yukon XL Denali is its surprisingly comfortable ride for a body-on-frame truck. It excels in both comfort and smoothness on the highway, but GMC's Magnetic Ride Control keeps it steady on corners, too. It electronically adjusts

suspension at all four corners to smooth bumps and dips in the road surface.

The lightweight steering offers pretty good feedback and enables tight U-turns for a truck of these proportions. Stopping from 60 mph is done in an impressive 139 feet — that's equal to many family sedans.

A 10-speed automatic transmission is smooth shifting and it has cylinder deactivation, which closes down half the cylinders when they are not needed on the highway. Still, EPA estimates for

the 2WD come in at 14 mpg city, 23 highway for a combined 17 mpg.

Driving this mammoth requires caution and patience in congested areas, but Denali offers lots of assistance. Besides great visibility from within, it has rear-view camera with cross-traffic alert, front and rear parking sensors and blind-spot monitoring.

So how tough is it to climb up into? Not as bad as you'd think, with the help of optional power running boards and grab handles on the front pillars. Once inside, you'll find

front seats are elegant and comfortable and are trimmed with heated/cooled perforated leather. Same for the second row bucket seats.

The driver keeps track of pertinent data via a head-up display on the windshield as well as a reconfigurable virtual instrument display. And the rearview mirror converts to a rear-vision camera so headrests nor cargo can hamper the view.

Denali gets GMC's smooth infotainment system, operable via steering wheel controls or 8-inch color touchscreen with

voice recognition. It comes with Bluetooth and is Apple CarPlay and Android Auto-capable. A 4G LTE Wi-Fi hotspot can accommodate up to seven devices.

For long drives there's enough to keep everyone entertained, starting with a 10-speaker Bose Surround Sound audio system. An optional rear entertainment system with DVD player, wireless headphones and HDMI port can silence the kids for hours.

One more handy item of note: Access to the cargo area can be done through a rear lift-gate window alone, a rarity these days.

With a sticker that approaches \$80,000, here's a money-saving tip: For 2019, the 6.2-liter engine with Magnetic Ride, once reserved only for the Denali, is available as an option on the SLT trim.

Either way, you'll soon discover the big and powerful Denali commands attention on the road — especially in the blacked out version. Folks seem to glance over and yield the right of way, either because of its heft or they weren't quite sure who could be inside. Could be somebody important, or maybe just the in-laws from the north again.

## AUTO REVIEW: At 19 feet,

# GMC YUKON XL

a master  
of utility



TNS  
The 2019 GMC  
Yukon XL Denali.

### TK NUTS & BOLTS

#### 2019 GMC Yukon XL Denali (2WD)

- MSRP: \$69,300
- As tested: \$78,675 (Includes Denali Ultimate Package, \$8,080; Denali Ultimate Black Edition, \$1,000)
- What's all the excitement about? Size, presence and power; new options offered on lesser trims for 2019
- Powertrain: 6.2-liter V-8 Ecotec3 engine with Magnetic Ride Control and 10-speed automatic
- How's the performance? Surprising acceleration to 60 mph in just over 6 seconds, tow rating up to 8,300 pounds.
- What about fuel economy? You had to ask? EPA estimates 14 mpg city, 23 highway

## Under the Hood: Troubleshooting a wonky brake warning light

**Q: The red brake warning light on my 2005 Ford F-150 comes on at various times. Can you suggest what I might do to check for the cause?**

— Ted

**A:** According to my ALL-DATA wiring diagrams, your F-150 has three possible or intended causes for the red brake indicator to illuminate.

First is the bulb check process when you roll the key to the crank position as you start the engine. This proves the light bulb works.

Once the truck is running, the other two possible causes are the parking brake switch and the master cylinder reservoir low fluid level switch. A grounded wire leading to ei-

ther switch is a distant fourth possibility.

Let's start by checking the master cylinder fluid level. If it is low, filling it should do the trick to extinguish the light. Use only fresh DOT 3 brake fluid from a sealed container. A low reservoir is cause for further investigation. It would be prudent to check brake lines, hoses, calipers and master cylinder for leakage. It's also possible the fluid level is low due to extended caliper piston positions as a result of worn or thin brake pads. This is the more likely situation.

If the fluid level looks OK, we'll next look for a faulty low fluid warning switch. It

sounds like the light is intermittent so you'll need to wait until the next time it comes on to do the following: With key on and engine off, unplug the master cylinder fluid reservoir's 3-terminal connector. If the light goes out, there is something wrong with the fluid level float switch.

The parking brake switch is next. It's a bit more difficult to get to, as it is located on the foot pedal mechanism. Try this first: Pull back and hold the brake release handle, and slowly press the pedal up and down a couple times near the top of travel, observing the warning light like a hawk. If it remains on at the exact same intensity, the parking

brake switch warrants further inspection. If the light changes in intensity even slightly as the pedal is operated, the parking brake switch is probably not the cause (light is already on due to another cause, becomes brighter due to two ground paths).

Next try pulling the pedal back slightly beyond its top-stop with the top of your toes while pulling on the release. If this cancels the warning light, the switch requires adjustment or repair.

Now it may be time to get a little dirty and torque your back! Unplugging the single wire leading to the parking brake switch will cancel the light if it is the offending part.

By **BRAD BERGHOLDT**  
Tribune News Service

*Brad Bergholdt is an automotive technology instructor at Evergreen Valley College in San Jose, Calif. Readers may send him email at [bradbergholdt@gmail.com](mailto:bradbergholdt@gmail.com); he cannot make personal replies.*



Sometimes these primitive switches come loose or fall apart, or if the wire leading to it becomes snarled in the ratchet mechanism, the resulting grounded circuit will turn on the light, likely intermittently.

**Q: I was just told when having my tires rotated on my Yukon 4x4 that my right front wheel bearing was loose. Being an old timer, I've done wheel bearings before. I was surprised to see**

**there isn't a dust cap as I've had in the past. What gives?**

— Carl G.

**A:** Your Yukon, like other GM light trucks, utilizes an integrated hub/wheel bearing/brake sensor assembly. Previously quite expensive, these hubs have come down to the \$100 to \$150 range for a name brand part (don't go cheaper). Installation requires a little over an hour's labor, some large wrenches/sockets, and a few choice words.

# Life & Style

## Anne Hathaway opens up about fertility struggles

**BEVERLY HILLS, Calif.** (AP)—Anne Hathaway, who announced this week she was expecting her second child, says she came forward about her struggles with getting pregnant because infertility can be deeply isolating.

"I think that we have a very one-size-fits-all approach to getting pregnant," Hathaway told The Associated Press on Saturday. "And you get pregnant and for the majority of cases, this is a really happy time. But a lot of people who are trying to get pregnant: That's not really the story. Or that's one part of the story. And the steps that lead up to that part of the story are really painful and very isolating and full of self-doubt. And I went through that."

The 36-year-old Oscar winner revealed on Instagram this week that she and husband Adam Shulman, an actor and jewelry designer, are expecting another child. The two have a 3-year-old son, Jona-



AP  
Anne Hathaway participates in the Amazon Prime Video "Modern Love" panel at the Television Critics Association Summer Press Tour on Saturday, July 27, 2019, in Beverly Hills, Calif.

than. Hathaway posted a picture of her pregnant self with the caption "It's not for a movie," then went on to say that

she was sending "extra love" to anyone with fertility issues because she's experienced it, too, with both pregnancies.

"I didn't just wave a magic wand and, 'I want to be pregnant and, wow, it all worked out for me, gosh, admire my bump now!'" she told the AP. "It's more complicated than that."

She made her remarks at an event promoting "Modern

Love," her new TV series for Amazon, saying she has been blown away by how many women go through this, and how unspoken it can be.

"I was just aware of the fact that when it came time to post that I was pregnant, somebody was going to feel even more isolated because of it," Hathaway said. "And I just wanted them to know they have a sister in me."

## Buttigieg: Students should speak out on bias, faults Trump

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Democratic presidential candidate Pete Buttigieg urged students Thursday to speak out against racial bias when they experience it or witness it, and he faulted President Donald Trump for deepening the nation's racial divide.

The South Bend, Indiana, mayor fielded a series of questions about race relations after encountering a group of Midwestern students in

Los Angeles while he was on a tour of a business that was co-founded by the late rapper Nipsey Hussle.

His visit into a historically black neighborhood came about a month after



Buttigieg

he faced jeers from some black residents in his hometown following the fatal shooting of a black man by a white police officer.

The apparently unplanned encounter Thursday with the group of mostly black students gave Buttigieg the opportunity to reflect on the shooting, as well as listen to their concerns about ongoing racial friction in cities and schools. The group was on a tour of California technology companies and other businesses.

## Cosby accuser Janice Dickinson says deal brings some justice

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Model and TV personality Janice Dickinson on Thursday called a settlement in her defamation lawsuit against the now imprisoned Bill Cosby a victory that brings a measure of justice, but that in the end is only a partial help.

"In reality, nothing can erase the experience and memory of an assault," Dickinson said at a news conference. "Jail is where he belongs. There are not enough years left for him to pay for what he has done to so many, many women."

Dickinson's attorney, Lisa Bloom, said the case was settled for an "epic" amount, though the terms of the agreement keep the exact figure confidential.

"Janice will be fully and fairly compensated for being branded a liar," Bloom said.

The deal allows Dickinson to continue to speak out against Cosby, which she said she intends to do.

"Sisters, my advice to you is never, ever give up ever, tell your story and stand up for your rights," Dickinson said.

She also urged lawmakers to extend the existing statutes of limitations on sexual assault that prevented them for pursuing their abuse allegations in court. Instead, she and other Cosby accusers sued the comedian for defamation for saying their claims were untrue.

Cosby insurer American In-

ternational Group Inc. settled the case against his will, as it has with at least eight other women who filed similar lawsuits.

"AIG's settlement of this lawsuit has no bearing whatsoever on the merit of Ms. Dickinson's claims," Cosby's spokesman Andrew Wyatt said in a statement Thursday. He said Dickinson's case is another example of "AIG robbing Mr. Cosby of the opportunity to clear his name in a court of law, where evidence and truthfulness are supposed to be elevated above headlines and gossip."

Cosby has repeatedly denied both Dickinson's allegations and the defamation allegations, saying that they were statements by his former attorney that he had no part in.

AIG declined comment through a spokesman.

The settlement, which Cosby's spokesman first confirmed Wednesday, brings a long list of litigation involving sexual misconduct and defamation accusations lodged against Cosby around the country near an end. Only a single California claim remains.

Dickinson was among the first for whom the term "supermodel" was used in the 1980s and has become a reality TV regular in recent decades on show's including "America's Next Top Model" and "Celebrity Big Brother."

## 'Lion King' reigns above box office for second week

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—"The Lion King" rode its circle of life into a second weekend atop the box office and "Once Upon A Time ... In Hollywood," while not quite doing fairytale numbers, gave director Quentin Tarantino his biggest opening ever.

Disney's photorealistic remake of the Hamlet-themed tale of Mufasa, Simba and Nala, featuring the voices of Donald Glover and Beyoncé, brought in \$75 million in North America, according to studio estimates Sunday. Its domestic total of \$350 million makes it the year's fourth highest-grossing film after just 10 days of release.

"Once Upon A Time ... In Hollywood" finished a distant second with \$40 million in its opening weekend for Sony, but it bested the 2009 opening of Tarantino's "Inglourious Basterds" by \$2 some million and made a strong showing for an R-rated, nearly-three-hour film that was not a sequel or remake and was aimed solely at adults.

The film with Leonardo DiCaprio, Brad Pitt and Margot Robbie as denizens of a 1969 Los Angeles where old Hollywood was fading and the Manson family was rising was more star-powered than Tarantino's previous eight movies, though the director himself was as big a draw as anyone.

"In our fan survey, over 40% of the audience went to



DISNEY VIA AP

This image released by Disney shows characters, from left, Mufasa, voiced by James Earl Jones, and young Simba, voiced by JD McCrary, in a scene from "The Lion King."

see the movie because of the director," said Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for Comscore. "That's incredible. You almost never see that. Sony did a great job of putting that cast and certainly Tarantino at the front of the marketing. That collective star power just paid huge dividends."

It's also the sort of film that's unlikely to experience a major drop-off in the coming weeks, and its long legs could

walk it into awards season given Hollywood's persistent love for movies about itself.

But with all of that, the film's opening take was still nearly doubled by "The Lion King" and its broad appeal.

"'Lion King' has appealed to everyone, that's a second-weekend gross that would be the envy of most films on their opening weekend," Dergarabedian said.

The two-week take is also

a sign that audiences are not yet feeling fatigue for Disney's live-action remakes in a year that has already seen "Dumbo" and "Aladdin."

"The idea that remake burn-out would be in effect for 'The Lion King' has not proven true," Dergarabedian said. "Some brands are inoculated from that kind of negative speculation."

That's even more good news for the ever-dominant Disney, with a live-action "Mulan" slated for early next year and more remakes in the planning stages.

The rest of the box office top 10 remained essentially unchanged from a week earlier. Sony's "Spider-Man: Far From Home" was third with \$12.2 million in its fourth weekend and has earned a cumulative \$344 million, "Toy Story 4" was fourth with \$9.8 million, and "Crawl" fifth with \$4 million.

"The Lion King" could reign for a third week. With major summer releases slowing as fall approaches the only real competition it has opening next weekend is "Fast & Furious: Hobbs & Shaw."

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Comscore. Where available, the latest international numbers for Friday through Sunday are also included. Final domestic figures will be released Monday.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. "The Lion King," \$75.5 million (\$142.8 million international).          | 6. "Yesterday," \$3 million (\$3.6 million international).               |
| 2. "Once Upon a Time ... In Hollywood," \$40.3 million.                      | 7. "Aladdin," \$2.8 million (\$7.2 million international).               |
| 3. "Spider-Man: Far From Home," \$12.2 million (\$21 million international). | 8. "Stuber," \$1.7 million (\$1.6 million international).                |
| 4. "Toy Story 4," \$9.8 million (\$19.4 million international).              | 9. "Annabelle Comes Home," \$1.56 million (\$3.7 million international). |
| 5. "Crawl," \$4 million (\$3.4 million international).                       | 10. "The Farewell," \$1.55 million.                                      |

# Prosecutor: More people could be charged in R. Kelly case

**CHICAGO** (AP)—More charges and more defendants could be added to the federal case against R. Kelly in Chicago that currently alleges child pornography and other crimes by the R&B singer and two associates, a prosecutor told a judge Thursday.

Prosecutor Angel Krull said a more far-ranging indictment

could replace the charging document that led to Kelly's arrest as he walked his dog in Chicago in mid-July. She offered no hints about possible new investigative targets.

Kelly, 52, is being held without bond on charges that include producing child pornography and coercing minors to engage in sex. He



<sup>AP</sup> In this June 26, 2019, file photo, R&B singer R. Kelly, center, arrives at the Leighton Criminal Court building for an arraignment on sex-related felonies in Chicago.

Leinenweber, who is expected to rule on the request at a hearing Wednesday, said he has also received emails from Kelly supporters.

Kelly's attorney, Steve Greenberg, told the judge that the proposed protective order was too restrictive, suggesting it could hamper the defense in responding to public comments by witnesses and their lawyers.

The 82-year-old judge revealed at the hearing that before he was assigned to the case this month he hadn't heard of Kelly, a Grammy Award winner whose hits include "Bump N' Grind" and "I Believe I Can Fly."

"My wife thinks it's rather humorous that I didn't know who Mr. Kelly was," he said.

Kelly, who wasn't at Thursday's hearing, has pleaded

not guilty to all charges. His co-defendants, ex-manager Derrel McDavid and former employee Milton Brown, also pleaded not guilty to paying hundreds of thousands of dollars to retrieve pornographic videos in a bid to stave off criminal charges.

The defense referred to Michael Avenatti, who represents several Kelly accusers, and who is facing federal fraud charges of his own. He told a news conference this month that Kelly paid \$2 million to buy the silence of a girl he had sex with and her family.

Leinenweber didn't mention Avenatti by name, but he said whatever lawyer tied to the case was making comments on the allegations "should be advised to keep his mouth shut."

In an unusual intervention, Chicago's acting U.S. marshal, Jason Wojdylo, also asked to speak at the hearing, saying he had concerns about transporting Kelly for an Aug. 2 arraignment in the New York case.

## SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

### Mueller hearing reaches just under 13 million viewers

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Nearly 13 million people watched former special counsel Robert Mueller's testimony before two House committees on the biggest broadcast and cable news networks. The Nielsen company says Mueller's audience Wednesday was smaller than it was for well-publicized hearings involving three other Trump-era figures: former FBI director James Comey (19.5 million), Trump attorney Michael Cohen (15.8 million) and Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh (20.4 million). Several factors likely conspired to make Mueller's testimony a lackluster TV draw. For one, it was held in July — vacation time, when television ratings are traditionally lower than any point of the year. It was also well after the special counsel's report was publicly released. Mueller also signaled in advance he wasn't likely to say much beyond his report. Once he started talking, he often gave one-word replies or declined to answer questions posed by lawmakers. Fox News Channel, with 3.03 million viewers, topped all the networks, Nielsen said. MSNBC had

2.41 million viewers, ABC had 2.12 million, NBC had 1.99 million, CBS had 1.91 million and CNN had 1.52 million. CBS was blacked out in some 10 million satellite homes due to a business dispute with DirecTV.

### Score! Megan Rapinoe book to be published next year

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Soccer star Megan Rapinoe has scored again, this time with a book deal. Penguin Press announced Thursday that Rapinoe's book, currently untitled, will be published in Fall 2020. Penguin is calling the book a "perfect vehicle" for an "honest, thoughtful, unapologetic" take on everything from soccer to nationalism to gay rights. Meanwhile, a division of Penguin Young Readers will work on a Rapinoe book for middle graders. Rapinoe became an international celebrity this summer after she helped lead the U.S. women's soccer team to a World Cup championship. She openly denounced President Donald Trump and said she would refuse to attend a White House celebration if invited. Trump tweeted in response that Rapinoe should "never disrespect our country, the White House or our flag."

faces similar federal charges in New York, along with Illinois charges brought by Cook County prosecutors.

Krull also requested an order protecting evidence and limiting what lawyers can say publicly about it. Media and

Kelly fans have harassed witnesses, making them hesitant about testifying and leading one to quit her job, Krull said.

"People who are brave and courageous shouldn't be subject to this," she said.

U.S. District Judge Harry

## No floppy-haired leading man for TV's 'Four Weddings' take

**BEVERLY HILLS, Calif.** (AP)—Hulu's "Four Weddings and a Funeral" pays homage to the 1994 film, but don't expect a Hugh Grant copycat in the limited series.

Creator Mindy Kaling says she deliberately avoided duplicating the movie's floppy-haired British guy as the romantic lead.

That character and look were "iconic" for Grant's career and for British comedy, Kaling said, but there are other ways to be sexy and stake out new ground.

"It makes room for a lot of other fascinating characters," Kaling told a TV critics' meeting Friday.

In the 10-episode Hulu series, it's Pakistani-British

character Kash who's front and center in the story of four friends and their love interests in London. He's played by Nikesh Patel, a British actor of Indian descent.

The woman who catches his eye in episode one is black, played by British actress Nathalie Emmanuel, who was Missandei on "Game of Thrones." Other cast members include Rebecca Rittenhouse, John Reynolds and Brandon Mychal Smith.

There are touches of Richard Curtis' original film sprinkled throughout the series, including an opening scene with liberal use of a certain expletive. Andie MacDowell, who starred opposite Grant in the movie, is back in a different role.

## Meghan guest edits UK Vogue, focusing on trailblazing women

**LONDON** (AP)—Meghan, the Duchess of Sussex, has guest edited the September issue of British Vogue with the theme "Forces for Change."

Royal officials say **Markle** the issue coming out

Aug. 2 features "change-makers united by their fearlessness in breaking barriers" and includes a conversation between Meghan and former U.S. first lady Michelle Obama.

The magazine cover features 15 women including New Zealand Prime Minister



Jacinda Ardern, actresses Jane Fonda, Jameela Jamil and Gemma Chan, model Adwoa Aboah and climate change campaigner Greta Thunberg.

Meghan, who is on maternity leave from her royal duties, said she hopes readers will be inspired by the magazine's focus on the "values, causes, and people making impact in the world today."

Kate, the Duchess of Cambridge, was featured on the magazine's cover in 2016.

## Friend takes offense at never being asked about her past

**DEAR ABBY:** Six months ago, I got back in touch with a childhood friend who married at 17 and moved away. She has lots of family drama, much of it caused by her alcoholism (which she says is a result of PTSD).

Recently, she told me I have hurt her and I'm a terrible friend because since we've reconnected, I have never once asked her about her past and the ordeals she's been through. Abby, she talks about herself constantly. I never thought it was necessary to ask her about the past because she never shuts up about it. I have tried to be a good listener, but I don't think she has made the best life choices, and I don't want to confront her with my opinions on how she has messed up her life.

I don't question people about their past, truthfully. I feel if they want to discuss it, they'll bring it up themselves. Was I wrong for not asking her to dredge it up? Now she won't even talk to me.

FRIENDLESS IN FLORIDA

**DEAR FRIENDLESS:** Be grateful the woman no longer speaks to you. You have done nothing wrong. The person you describe needs to feel wronged and be the focus of your conversations, which to me seems self-centered. Consider yourself fortunate that this troubled individual has moved on, and concentrate on relationships that are healthy—and mutual.

**DEAR ABBY:** My family is very close, and we see each other often. Lately I have been avoiding most of our family gatherings because of my brother-in-law "Jared."

At the most recent family occasion, he was staring, winking and flashing peace signs at me. This is not friendly banter; it is very creepy. My sister isn't aware of it, and I'm sure she wouldn't approve.

I have been married four times, and I'm currently single. If his behavior continues, which I'm sure it will since I am a very desirable woman, I will have to skip family events entirely. Any thoughts?

HARD TO RESIST OUT WEST

**DEAR HARD TO RESIST:** Your letter is unique. I rarely hear from people with as "healthy" an ego as yours. Because you feel your brother-in-law is out of line, try this: Tell him to cut it out the next time he does it because it is making you uncomfortable. And if that doesn't do the trick, tell his wife.

**DEAR ABBY:** I'm a male who recently started dating a great guy, "Jake." I deal with the public in my job every day, and I'm often asked things like, "Do you have a girlfriend?" and, "When will you find a wife?" Even my co-workers are inquiring when I'll find a "lucky girl." I'm happy in my relationship and would like to express that. Is there a tactful, succinct, non-

## DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



awkward way to let people know I'm in a happy relationship with another male?

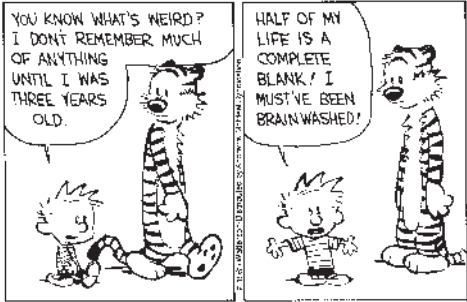
IN A HAPPY PLACE IN GEORGIA

**DEAR HAPPY:** Absolutely! When asked if you have a girlfriend, say, "No, I have a boyfriend." And when your co-workers ask when you are going to find a wife or a "lucky girl," be upfront and tell them you are dating a great guy named Jake. That should answer the questions and put the subject to rest.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis

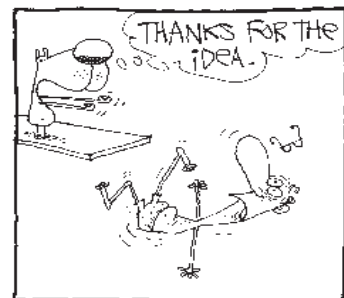
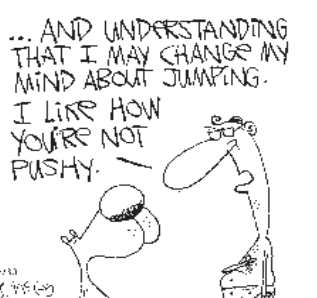
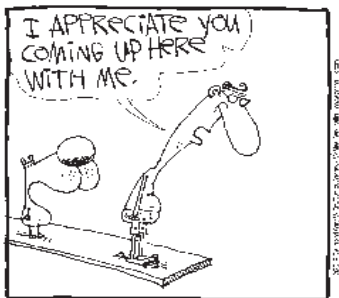


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Drifting ice

5 Rainbow shape

8 Level

12 Gloomy

13 Goat's plaint

14 Timber wolf

15 High-speed German highway

17 Cruising

18 Speck

19 Sent messages by phone

21 Viral web sensation

24 Challenge

25 Unrepaired

26 Self-government

30 Light brown

31 Locales

32 24 horas

33 Retro eateries

35 Splendor

36 Shirt protectors

37 Runs out of steam

38 Designer Giorgio

41 "Mayday!"

42 Fashion line?

43 Dictator

48 Poet Teasdale

49 Away from SSW

50 Roof overhang

51 "— chic!"

52 Stitch

53 Graceful bird

3 Ump's call

4 Wears away

5 Latin 101 word

6 Fan's cry

7 Bach choral works

8 Pale yellow

9 Missing

10 "... sting like —"

11 Frog's relative

16 Derek and Diddley

20 Love god

21 — Hari

22 Jacob's twin

23 Gum flavor

24 Ails for pairs

26 Spirited steeds

27 Air freshener target

28 Silent actor

29 Chatters

31 Whitaker's Oscar-winning role

34 First family of 2010

35 Early March baby

37 Overly

38 Admin. aide

39 Caboose

40 Stallion's mate

41 Leftovers recipe

44 French article

45 Cold and damp

46 Gardner of Hollywood

47 Sawbuck

Solution time: 22 mins.

V C R T S A R S L I I  
I O N A L B C C E I A M  
N O S E G O U N T P G A  
N O W — U C S O N  
M E E T M E S P A Y  
U S A A S S N C E  
T A R S T A P N C A A  
T I M O R P I P E P P  
A B E L S U D D E N  
S C R A P E — R  
W O K E Y E O P E N E R  
A U E A I O L L A W E  
B E D I E N S E H E X

Yesterday's answer 7-30

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Simon Baker, 50; Terry Crews, 51; Lisa Kudrow, 56; Laurence Fishburne, 58.

**Happy Birthday:** How you plan and prepare will make a difference this year. Change needs to be considered carefully, and rushing into anything that can influence your status, reputation or long-term goals is not encouraged. Time is on your side. Focusing on maintaining balance and playing as hard as you work will help you make superior life choices. Your numbers are 4, 15, 24, 26, 33, 39, 44.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Winging it won't be good enough. Preparation and clear-cut plans need to be put in place before you proceed. Much can be accomplished if you have done the necessary research and legwork. Personal physical improvement can be made. \*\*

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** If you feel you need a change, make it happen. Don't forgo something you really want to do because someone is giving you a hard time or trying to push you in a direction you don't want to go. Follow your heart. \*\*\*\*

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Listen carefully, get the facts and forge ahead. Personal gain is within reach if you are willing to do the work. A change of heart can be confusing for others if you don't explain the reasoning behind your actions. \*\*\*

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Emotions will be close to the surface and will need to be channeled into something constructive. A creative project or doing your part

to improve a strained relationship you have with someone will help turn a negative situation into a positive one. \*\*\*

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Uncertainty and inconsistency will be your downfall. Refuse to let what others do confuse you. Where there is a temptation, there is also a choice. Do the right thing to experience no regret. Personal growth should be your goal. \*\*\*

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** A change will inspire you to do things differently or to make plans to spend more time with people who lift you up instead of bring you down. Engaging in activities that improve your emotional state of mind is favored. \*\*\*\*

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Focus less on what others do or say and more on how to improve who you are, your life and your future. Recognize what isn't working for you anymore, and make the adjustments necessary to ease stress and encourage happiness. \*\*

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Walk away from disruptive situations. Use your intelligence and experience to navigate your way through anything detrimental to your health or physical well-being. If a change will clear the passage, embark on the journey. \*\*\*\*\*

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Handle joint ventures with care. If a deal sounds too good to be true, start looking for hidden details or false information. You can make gains and get ahead, but only if you stay on top of every transaction made. \*\*\*

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** It's up to you to make the changes that will improve your life. Don't count on others to do things for you. Evaluate your current personal or partnership situation, and make the necessary adjustments. Don't share secrets or passwords. \*\*\*

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** You don't have to follow what someone else does or give in to the temptation someone dangles in front of you. Fend for yourself, channel your energy into physical fitness and self-improvement and avoid excessive behavior and unnecessary expenses. \*\*\*

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Use experience and knowledge to help you make necessary adjustments. Refuse to let anyone interfere or push you in a direction that you have doubts about. Call in favors and offer incentives to those who have something worthwhile to contribute. \*\*\*\*\*

**Birthday Baby:** You are charismatic, entertaining and vigorous. You are physical and brave. To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit [EugeniaLast.com](http://EugeniaLast.com), or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13				14		
15				16				17		
			18				19	20		
21	22	23				24				
25				26				27	28	29
30				31					32	
33			34					35		
			36				37			
38	39	40				41				
42				43	44			45	46	47
48				49				50		
51				52				53		

**STUMPED?** For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

9	3		2	6	1
	8	1	5	9	
5	9				
4	1	2	8	3	
			7	9	
6	2	6	8	5	
	7	1		2	4
		9			

Difficulty Level ★★

7/30

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

9	8	4	5	6	1	7	2	3
6	2	1	8	7	3	9	5	4
7	5	3	2	9	4	1	8	6
4	7	5	6	2	9	3	1	8
1	6	2	4	3	8	5	7	9
8	3	9	7	1	5	6	4	2
3	4	8	9	5	7	2	6	1
5	9	6	1	8	2	4	3	7
2	1	7	3	4	6	8	9	5

Difficulty Level ★

7/30

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WONDERWORD By DAVID CUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

CAFETERIAS

Solution: 11 letters

S P L O O H C S H R I M P B E  
A A I L E G A B C O F F E E R  
L S N C E Z C O L L E G E A A  
A T E D Z N O T Y L A T F N P  
D A U I W E T A R S I S A S E  
O A P E C I R I U U O R N L R  
N B E I F T C A L F G A G U P  
U E U R I B S H F O P O T E B  
T J K R B E A I D K N U Y S S  
S F E C G T C T I A O H S A Q  
A R I C I E O N L K O O E L U  
O I L P I H R O C R D T O M I  
R E I K O O C E D A L U U O N  
S S H E C A H E S T E A K N O  
P I C K T C R C L A S A G N A

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Bagel, Beans, Bread, Buns, Burger, Checkout, Chicken, Chili, Choice, Coffee, Cola, College, Cookie, Corn, Donut, Fries, Grill, Hot Dog, Juice, Lasagna, Lentil, Lineup, Napkin, Noodles, Office, Order, Pasta, Pick, Pita, Pizza, Plate, Prepare, Quinoa, Ribs, Rice, Roast, Salad, Salmon, Sandwich, Sausage, School, Shrimp, Soda, Steak, Taco, Teas, Tray, Tuna, Yogurt

Yesterday's Answer: Treated

To purchase THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volumes 38, 40, and 42 through 56, order online at [www.WonderWordBooks.com](http://www.WonderWordBooks.com).

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**Requirements:**  
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2 RETAIL SALEPERSON

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AND PERMANENT RESIDENTS  
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**DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:**

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- Must be knowledgeable in operating PC, adding machine, electric typewriter, accounting software such as QuickBooks and/or Peachtree.

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**Ground Floor, Afetna Building, San Antonio Village, Saipan, MP 96950**  
**Tel.# 235-1680**

RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a complete 5-day run of liner ads, for as low as \$15 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

**ADS**

- 3-Liner
- 5-Liner

**\$15**  
**\$24**

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**Classified Ads**

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

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**Classified Ads**

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

**WHATZIT?**<sup>TM</sup>

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

**Peach  
Amber  
Busset  
Khaki  
Auburn**

[www.facebook.com/dingbatgames](http://www.facebook.com/dingbatgames)

Find today's solution in classified section

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**JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**

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**DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:**  
Install, maintain, and repair electrical wiring, equipment, and fixtures. Ensure that work is in accordance with relevant codes. May install or service street lights, intercom systems, or electrical control systems. Plan layout and installation of electrical wiring, equipment, or fixtures, based on job specifications and drawings. Connect wires to circuit breakers, transformers, or other components. Test electrical systems or continuity of circuits in electrical wiring, equipment, or fixtures, using testing devices, such as ohmmeters, voltmeters, or oscilloscopes, to ensure compatibility and safety of system. Use a variety of tools or equipment, such as power construction equipment, measuring devices, power tools, and testing equipment, such as oscilloscopes, ammeters, or test lamps. Inspect electrical systems, equipment, or components to identify hazards, defects, or the need for adjustment or repair, and to ensure compliance with codes.

**DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:**

- HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE;
- AT LEAST 24 MONTHS EXPERIENCE
- KNOWLEDGE IN USING MEASURING DEVICES, POWER TOOLS AND TESTERS.

All interested applicants can submit resume at [anniep@gppcinc.com](mailto:anniep@gppcinc.com) or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Koshi Kileleman Road, As Peridido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI Labor web site -[marianaslabor.net](http://marianaslabor.net).

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# Strasburg fires gem, Nationals rout Dodgers



**WASHINGTON (AP)**—Stephen Strasburg

was too tough, even for the top team in the majors.

The Washington ace tossed seven masterful innings Sunday to win his seventh consecutive start, leading the Nationals to an 11-4 rout of the Los Angeles Dodgers.

“Everything about him this year has been amazing,” manager Dave Martinez said. “The way he works. His attitude. He’s having fun. I just watched him dance. It was kind of nice.”

Martinez watched most of Strasburg’s latest gem from the clubhouse after he and outfielder Adam Eaton were ejected for arguing a called strike in the first inning.

Strasburg (14-4) took over the major league lead in wins after striking out nine, walking none and limiting a potent Dodgers lineup to one run and two hits. He threw 67 of 100 pitches for strikes.

“He’s been everything you can imagine one of your star pitchers to be,” Martinez said.

## Yankees 9, Red Sox 6

In Boston, Didi Gregorius and Austin Romine each hit a two-run homer off Chris Sale, and Domingo Germán struck out nine to help New York avoid a four-game sweep.

After trimming New York’s lead in the AL East from 11 games to eight—winning the first three games of the series by a combined 38-13—the Red Sox committed three errors to fall into third place, nine games behind the Yankees in the division.

Germán (13-2) took a no-hitter into the fourth and allowed four hits and a walk through 5 1/3 innings.

## Mets 8, Pirates 7

In New York, Michael Conforto hit a two-run homer in a six-run first inning against Chris Archer, and the Mets matched their longest win streak of the season at four with a win over Pittsburgh.

Jason Vargas (6-5) won a third straight start, and the Mets completed a three-game sweep.

Given a 6-0 lead, Vargas allowed three runs and six hits in 5 2/3 innings.

## Marlins 5, Diamondbacks 1

In Miami, rookie outfielder Harold Ramirez homered, hit a line drive that scored the tiebreaking run and made consecutive catches against the fence to help the Marlins beat Arizona.

Miguel Rojas led off the first inning with a home run for the second game in a row, and Miami teammate Brian Anderson added his 14th homer. Five



pitchers combined on a four-hitter for the Marlins.

## Reds 3, Rockies 2

In Cincinnati, Tucker Barnhart hit a tiebreaking single in the sixth inning and the Reds beat Colorado.

Barnhart improved to 4 for 5 in two games since returning on Friday after missing 22 games with a right oblique strain. He drove in Josh VanMeter from second base with a grounder up the middle off Jake McGee (0-2).

## Rays 10, Blue Jays 9

In Toronto, Joey Wendle drove in the tiebreaking run with a bases-loaded groundout in the ninth inning and Tampa

Bay rallied from a seven-run deficit to beat the Blue Jays.

Ji-Man Choi and Guillermo Heredia each hit two-run home runs and Willy Adames added a game-tying solo shot in the eighth for the Rays.

## Phillies 9, Braves 4

In Philadelphia, J.T. Realmuto hit a grand slam, three other Phillies went deep and the Braves avoided a three-game sweep against Atlanta.

Aaron Nola (9-2) cruised through six scoreless innings before faltering in the seventh. He left after surrendering seven hits with eight strikeouts and three walks in 6 2/3 innings.

## Twins 11, White Sox 1

In Chicago, Miguel Sanó hit a three-run homer in a five-run first inning, and Minnesota pounded Dylan Covey and Chicago to strengthen its hold on the AL Central.

Jorge Polanco, Jonathan Schoop and Max Kepler also homered as Minnesota ran its major league-leading total to 205 home runs.

## Cubs 11, Brewers 4

In Milwaukee, Kyle Schwarber hit a grand slam and a three-run homer to power Chicago past the Brewers, averting a three-game sweep.

Schwarber crushed a first-pitch slam deep into the sec-

ond deck in right field off starter Zach Davies (8-4) with one out in the second inning for his 23rd home run of the season. The slugger took Davies deep again in the fourth with an opposite-field shot to make it 7-0.

## Astros 6, Cardinals 2

In St. Louis, George Springer led off the game with a home run, Jose Altuve and rookie Yordan Alvarez also connected and Houston beat the Cardinals.

The Astros have won nine of 11.

Paul Goldschmidt’s team record-tying streak of six straight games with a home

run ended for St. Louis. He singled in five at-bats.

## Royals 9, Indians 6

In Kansas City, Cleveland pitcher Trevor Bauer heaved the ball from just past the mound over the center field wall while being taken out of the game in a loss to the Royals.

It was not clear whether Bauer was upset with his performance or that manager Terry Francona was pulling him. Bauer (9-8) had just allowed a two-run single to Nicky Lopez that gave the Royals a 7-5 lead with one out in the fifth inning.

## Angels 5, Orioles 4

In Anaheim, Matt Thaiss hit his second home run of the game in the bottom of the ninth and Los Angeles avoided being swept by Baltimore.

Albert Pujols hit his 650th homer. Taylor Cole (1-1) threw 1 2/3 scoreless innings of relief for the win.

## Athletics 6, Rangers 5

In Oakland, Marcus Semien homered and scored the game-winning run on a bases-loaded walk in the bottom of the ninth as the Athletics beat Texas.

Texas led 5-4 in the ninth with José Leclerc (1-3) seeking his sixth save. His blown save was his third.

Leclerc walked Khris Davis with the bases loaded and one out after Matt Olson singled in Chris Hermann with the tying run.

## Mariners 3, Tigers 2, 10 innings

In Seattle, J.P. Crawford hit a walkoff single with one out in the 10th inning and the Mariners extended their winning streak to five games.

Dylan Moore led off the 10th inning with a double against José Cisnero (0-2).

Roenis Elias (4-2) picked up the victory for Seattle. Domingo Santana hit his 20th homer of the season.

## Giants 7, Padres 6

In San Diego, Madison Bumgarner won his final start before the trade deadline and rookie Mike Yastrzemski had four hits, two RBIs and scored the go-ahead run to lead San Francisco over the Padres.

Bumgarner (6-7) allowed only four hits in seven innings, including a three-run homer by Hunter Renfroe two batters after he hit prized rookie Fernando Tatis Jr. with a pitch, drawing the ire of Padres fans. MadBum struck out six and walked two.

## Mets acquire Stroman from Blue Jays for 2 pitching prospects

**NEW YORK (AP)**—All-Star pitcher Marcus Stroman was acquired by his hometown Mets from the Toronto Blue Jays on Sunday for a pair of minor league prospects, a trade that makes it likely New York will deal away one of its current starters by Wednesday’s deadline.

A 28-year-old right-hander who made his first All-Star team this season, Stroman is 6-11 in 21 starts despite a 2.96 ERA that is fifth-best in the American League. He is eligible for arbitration next winter and can become a free agent after the 2020 season.

Toronto received two of New York’s top pitching prospects in 24-year-old left-hander Anthony Kay and 18-year-old righty Simeon Woods Richardson. As part

of the swap, the Mets get \$1.5 million from the Blue Jays to offset much of the \$2,506,452 remaining on Stroman’s \$7.4 million salary this year.

The 5-foot-7 Stroman is 47-45 with a 3.76 ERA in six big league seasons. He grew up on Long Island near Mets starter Steven Matz, about 50 miles from Citi Field.

“Marcus is a dynamic talent who will bring tremendous passion to our team and energy our fans will truly appreciate,” first-year general manager Brodie Van Wagenen said in a statement. “As a Long Island native, we believe that Marcus will thrive playing in New York.”

With reports emerging that the deal was close to completion, Stroman posted a tweet that read: “Toronto, I love

you...forever!” It was followed by a Canadian flag.

New York (50-55) is six games back in the NL wild-card race, with six teams ahead for the two spots, after a four-game winning streak that boosted the Mets to 10-5 since the All-Star break. With the trade deadline coming up and Stroman now in the fold, New York seems likely to ship off at least one member of its current rotation, which includes Matz, Noah Syndergaard, Zack Wheeler, Jason Vargas and NL Cy Young Award winner Jacob deGrom.

Syndergaard, Wheeler and perhaps Vargas appear the most probable candidates.

Wheeler can become a free agent after this season, as can Vargas if his 2020 club option

is not exercised. Syndergaard and Matz can become free agents after the 2021 season, and deGrom is signed through 2023—though he has the right to opt out a year early.

Stroman was a prep star at Patchogue-Medford High School on Long Island before attending Duke University. On April 16, 2009, he pitched against Matz, who was on Ward Melville High in East Setauket.

Kay is 1-3 with a 6.61 ERA in seven starts for Triple-A Syracuse after starting the season 7-3 with a 1.76 ERA in 12 starts at Double-A Binghamton. He also went to Ward Melville, like Matz, and was drafted by the Mets on the 29th round in 2013 but chose to go to the University of Connecticut.

# Koepka outduels McIlroy, wins first WGC title

**MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP)—**Brooks Koepka knows everyone wanted to see a tight final-round duel with Rory McIlroy.

"That would have been incredible for the fans, for everybody that showed up and I'm sure that's what everybody wanted," Koepka said.

Too bad Koepka drained all the drama Sunday on the way to his first World Golf Championships title.

Koepka had three birdies in a four-hole stretch on the front nine and cruised to a three-stroke victory in the FedEx St. Jude Invitational.

Playing with McIlroy in their first final-group pairing, the top-ranked Koepka closed with a bogey-free 5-under 65 at TPC Southwind for his seventh PGA Tour title. He finished at 16-under 264.

McIlroy followed his third-round 62 with a 71 to drop into a tie for fourth at 11 under. McIlroy declined to talk to reporters after the round.

"Rory didn't play the way he wanted to today, but still it's so much fun to watch him play," Koepka said. "You kind of get glued watching him hit balls. I mean, it's mesmerizing watching him hit. You know it's always nice to squeak out a victory over probably the best player right now."

Webb Simpson had a 64 to finish second. Marc Leishman (67) was third, four strokes back. Tommy Fleetwood (66) and Matthew Fitzpatrick (69) joined McIlroy at 11 under.

Koepka wrapped up the regular-season points title a week early and claimed a \$2 million bonus from the Wyndham Rewards program. He is assured to going into the FedEx Cup playoffs as the No. 1 seed.

Koepka became the sixth player to win a major championship and a World Golf Championship in the same year. He won the PGA Championship for the second straight year in May.

After tapping in for par on No. 18, Koepka celebrated with a little fist pump before hugging McIlroy.

Koepka had been so close in recent weeks, coming in second at the U.S. Open in June and tying for fourth last week at the British Open. He also had a pair of top-10 finishes in this event when it was held at Firestone Country Club in Akron, Ohio, and he also won for the first time at the TPC Southwind, where he tied for third in 2015 and tied for second in 2016 when this course hosted the former St. Jude Classic.

Koepka says he feels he knows this course better than any other on tour, and finally



AP  
Brooks Koepka chips to the second green during the final round of the World Golf Championships-FedEx St. Jude Invitational, Sunday, July 28, 2019, in Memphis, Tenn.

winning here and a WGC title, too, is special.

"It's a thinker's golf course," Koepka said. "I probably don't get enough thought process going through my mind sometimes, just get up and hit it. It gets very routine.

A lot of times it's drivers, but out here you've really got to position yourself off the tee depending on where the pin is."

Now Koepka has come from behind in three of his seven victories, though this time teeing off only a stroke off the lead. When they teed off, Koepka was among 10 players within four strokes of leader McIlroy.

After a couple of pars, Koepka took control.

Koepka rolled in a 9-footer for birdie and a share of the lead on the par-5 third he bogeyed in each of the first two rounds for a nice confidence boost. McIlroy missed his own 4-foot birdie chance a couple inches left after chipping from behind a green-side bunker.

Then Koepka hit his second shot on the par-4 fifth from 185 yards to 5 feet for his second birdie and the outright lead, while McIlroy's second was on the left fringe with his attempt 5 feet short on yet another par. Koepka birdied his second straight on the par-4 sixth, rolling in a 20-footer for a two-stroke lead.

Koepka padded that lead after the turn, hitting his second from 143 to 8 feet on the par-4 10th. Koepka rolled in the birdie putt to go to 15 under with a three-stroke lead making the only question left whether any-

one could get close.

He created the last of the drama by scrambling for par on the next two holes. He put his second into the intermediate rough on the edge of the green on No. 15, forcing him to hole a 9-footer, with a poor chip on

the par-5 16th leading to another par. But he clinched the win with a 12-footer on No. 17.

McIlroy had won three of his previous four when shooting at least a 62 in an event. The Northern Irishman who missed the cut at the British Open by

a stroke last week just couldn't keep up with Koepka.

Simpson eagled No. 3 and added a birdie on No. 6. Then he added four birdies on the back nine and tied the best round of the day with his best round since winning the 2018

Players Championship.

"Knowing that Brooks Koepka and Rory are out in front, I knew it needed to be a low round," Simpson said. "I didn't have a number in mind. ... Very happy with how the day went.

## Odds makers have Bucks, Clippers top regular-season winners



**LOS ANGELES—**We know that the Milwaukee Bucks and Los Angeles Clippers will probably be pretty good next year. Las Vegas thinks so, too.

The Bucks have the reigning MVP in Giannis Antetokounmpo and the Clippers recently added both Kawhi Leonard and Paul George. Both conferences are wide open, but each of these teams will likely rack up a bunch of respective wins.

The odds makers at Caesars Sportsbook gave out the initial over/under for wins in the NBA this year, and Milwaukee and L.A. came in topping the league. According to ESPN's David Purdum, the Bucks came in at 57 wins and the Clippers came in at 55.5 wins.

Antetokounmpo and Milwaukee won 60 games last year, and L.A.'s chances are a bit murkier given that health and time on the floor will be a huge factor for their regular season win total.

The NBA year is long, and we aren't even close to these guys playing actual games yet. Regular season wins don't matter all that much, save for seeding in the play-

offs. No doubt each team will make it to the postseason.

What will really make a difference is who is healthy come April 2020.

Meanwhile, when the Warriors waived Julian Washburn earlier this month, many assumed the vacated spot was earmarked for Damion Lee, who had been a two-way player for Golden State last season and just happens to be Steph Curry's brother-in-law.

Whatever mystery remained evaporated Sunday when Lee agreed to a two-way contract to return to the Warriors, league sources said.

Lee, who has played in 47 NBA games (11 starts) over the last two years, shot over 40 percent from the field between the NBA and G League last season. He provides much-needed depth at the wing position, and it would not be a surprise to see him ascend the depth chart this coming year.

In bringing Lee back, the Warriors' 2019-20 roster is now essentially finalized, with 14 NBA contracts and two two-way players.

In other developments, Jeremy Lin played pretty well for Atlanta last season. He was on the court for 51 games as a backup to and mentor

for Trae Young, scoring 10.7 points per game, shooting 34.7 percent from three, and generally being a solid NBA rotation player.

That's not what everyone remembers, however. Lin was waived by the Hawks and picked up for the playoffs by Toronto, but by then he was out of their rotation, playing 27 total minutes in the postseason for the eventual champs. He was a non-factor.

That's what other teams have seemed to remember this summer, as Lin has not yet signed with an NBA team. Now, Euroleague champs CSKA Moscow is targeting Lin.

There are questions here we don't have an answer to, specifically what is the offer? Lin rightfully believes he will probably get a vet minimum contract offer at some point (during training camp or early in the season), which is \$2.3 million if for the full season. Is CSKA Moscow's offer for more than that (which would make him one of the highest-paid players in Europe)? Even if it's for less, is Lin willing to accept the deal on a "bird in the hand" theory? Would Lin, if he is going to play overseas, prefer to play in China, both for branding reasons and that season ends

early enough that he could hook up with an NBA team in March for a playoff run?

CSKA Moscow is thin at point guard heading into next season and is not going to wait around a long time to fill that vacancy.

Lin, who will turn 31 next month, has played for eight different teams in his career, including the Warriors, Knicks, Rockets, Lakers, Hornets, Nets, Hawks and most recently the Raptors. Right now, the 6-foot-3 guard is looking for a ninth, but so far, he's got nothing to show for it.

Lin is an unrestricted free agent, but thus far has been unable to land a contract offer. He opened up about his free agency experience during an event in Taiwan over the weekend, and clearly, it's been an emotional rollercoaster.

"I've given more of myself to god every single year," Lin explained, "and every year it gets harder. And in English there's a saying and it says once you've hit rock bottom, the only way is up. But rock bottom just seems to keep getting more and more rock bottom for me. So, free agency has been tough, cause I feel like in some ways the NBA has kind of given up on me."

# Rams shaking off Super Bowl loss to start training camp



IRVINE, Calif. (AP)

— Most of the Los Angeles Rams had never been to the Super Bowl before last February, so they relished every day of the experience in Atlanta.

And over the ensuing five months, the Rams have experienced another first: Being constantly asked how they managed to lose like that on football's biggest stage.

"Yeah, there was a lot of talk this summer," cornerback Nickell Robey-Coleman said. "It was the last game of the season, so it's natural. It's just more motivation. It just actually lets you know how big that game is, and how important it is for people to win."

The Rams reported to training camp this weekend with that 13-3 loss to New England still sharp in many minds. In particular, the high-powered Los Angeles offense's largely inept performance still seems baffling in retrospect, both to the fans who watched it and to the players and coaches who lived through it.

When Sean McVay appeared on Jimmy Kimmel's ABC talk show earlier this month, the host asked how often the coach still thought about his offense's three-point, 260-yard effort in the lowest-scoring Super Bowl.

"Every minute," McVay said with a rueful smile.

McVay had never coached in a Super Bowl, but he already knows how to use that experience to motivate a team returning with nearly all of the players who came up short in Atlanta.

While he shares most coaches' earnest focus on the future, McVay knows he can draw motivational fuel from the disappointment and embarrassment of the NFC champions' thumping from the Patriots.

"It is certainly something we talk about," McVay said Saturday. "(But) you wipe the slate clean every year. There are 31 other teams that have the same goals as us, but like last year, the only way you achieve goals in this league is you produce in the



AP  
Los Angeles Rams' Marcus Peters (22), left, breaks up a pass intended for New England Patriots' Chris Hogan during the first half of the NFL Super Bowl 53, Sunday, Feb. 3, 2019, in Atlanta.

present, and you just control what you can control."

The Rams went back to work at UC Irvine this weekend intending to turn their experience into more success. They've won 26 total games and two NFC West titles in McVay's two seasons, but that Super Bowl loss serves as a reminder not to lean on past achievements.

"Yesterday's home runs don't count

for today's games," punter Johnny Hekker said. "Last year's wins don't mean anything right now."

McVay didn't tear up his inventive offensive schemes after Bill Belichick countered them so comprehensively in the Super Bowl, and Los Angeles didn't shake up its roster.

Instead, nine of the Rams' 11 offensive starters are returning along with the potentially enormous ad-

dition of receiver Cooper Kupp, who missed the second half of last season and the playoffs with a torn knee ligament.

Kupp broke out with 62 catches for 869 yards as a rookie in 2017, and he was midway through another outstanding season when he went down. He has been the receiver on some of the biggest throws ever made by quarterback Jared Goff, whose 19-

for-38 performance in the Super Bowl quieted none of his critics.

Goff appears to be growing nicely from the setback, although the results won't be clear until the regular season begins in September. He said he feels more mature heading into his fourth training camp, and the Rams hope it shows on the field as they prepare to sign him to a massive contract extension in the near future.

"I think (the opening practice of camp) was the first time that truly felt like we picked up where we left off," Goff said, noting that McVay was new two years ago, while top receiver Brandin Cooks was new last season.

"The third year, this is it, is where everyone is coming back collectively as a unit," Goff added. "It felt like there was no fall-off at all. We know exactly what we're doing, and it felt really good. ... I think this year is truly the first year where it didn't feel so big. You're so used to it at this point."

The Rams' two biggest offseason additions were Eric Weddle and Clay Matthews, two veteran defensive NFL stars return to their native Los Angeles area to chase a championship. They also added a crop of rookies—most notably Greg Gaines, the current replacement for starting nose tackle Ndamukong Suh—but otherwise will rely on the roster that was so close, but yet so far from a title.

The upcoming season will prove whether one major loss shook the confidence of a team that has been among the NFL's best teams for the past two seasons. The Rams believe they can shake it off.

"I think you have to realize," Goff said, "that you didn't win the division two years in a row on accident."

LATROBE, Pa.—Devin Bush agrees, Mike Tomlin. There is so much to prove.

Like what?

"That I belong in this league," Bush, the rookie linebacker from Michigan said after lunch on Sunday, a couple hours before hitting the field for the first padded training camp practice of his NFL career.

"That I was the right choice for this team. To give up that many picks and put that many high hopes on me. ... I'm out to prove I'm not a bust."

Bush, 21, came to this picturesque campus where the Pittsburgh Steelers have held camp for more than a half century with conceivably more pressure than any rookie wearing black-and-gold in years.

Sure, he was picked for the purpose of providing big plays to a defense that has been sorely lacking in that

## Steelers need results after giving up bundle for Bush

department since the tragic spinal injury likely ended Ryan Shazier's career in 2017. There's pressure enough to fill the void with Shazier's pick.

Yet the Steelers undeniably doubled down with their expectations. Bush isn't just the first-round pick. He embodies Pittsburgh's second-round pick. And next year's third-round choice, too. To move up 10 slots in the first round to draft Bush 10th overall, the Steelers packaged those two premium picks to swap first-round slots with the Denver Broncos.

It's no wonder that Tomlin, the Steelers' boisterous coach, won't mince words in expressing the need for Bush to quickly prove himself — and with a fast learning curve.

"We didn't move up in

Round 1 to take him so he can watch," Tomlin said after Sunday's practice. "We moved up for that guy to play football."

Bush, with an NFL pedigree flowing from his father, Devin Sr., a Super Bowl-winning safety with the St. Louis Rams a generation ago, is embracing the noise.

Yet he's not buying into the theme that he's under any more pressure because of the big price the Steelers paid to get him.

"Not as much as people think it does or should," he said. "They saw a player they felt could make an impact, and they acted on it. So, I'm going to come and be the player I know I can be."

In other words, regardless of his draft slot or attached

picks, this job was always going to come with intense scrutiny. And he is hardly alone.

With the Steelers missing the playoffs last season, with key faces gone (like Antonio Brown and, officially, Le'Veon Bell, among others), with a defense that has repeatedly fallen short in the dominance department in recent years, with Ben Roethlisberger's leadership abilities called into question and with zero Super Bowl rings in eight years, the heat is palpable.

As camp opened, the team announced that Tomlin's contract was extended for another year. So there's no lame-duck status for the coach who remains a big target, fair or not. But Kevin Colbert, the longtime personnel guru, hasn't struck a new deal. Makes you wonder.

ately trying to prove that he won't be remembered as the type of bust that linebacker Jarvis Jones (D-1, 2013) is tagged as.

"Continual development," Tomlin said after introducing Layne to a visitor. "If you're not into development, you're in the wrong business."

It was clear Tomlin has been impressed with that he's seen thus far from Layne, 6-2, 192.

"He's been around that ball!" Tomlin said.

The early reviews for Bush have also been positive. Since the Steelers opened camp, Bush (6-1, 234) has not only lined up with the first unit, but he is handling the responsibility of calling plays — something that not even Shazier did from the outset of his first camp. That coincides with Tomlin's impression that his new linebacker grasps concepts easier than most players.

# IT&E Light, Mawati win debuts in One Pacific caging



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

IT&E Light players and their muse pose for a photo during the parade of teams in the opening ceremony of the Tsingtao Beer-sponsored 2019 One Pacific Promotional Basketball League last Sunday at the Civic Center Court in Susupe.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Mawati players and their muse join the parade of teams during the opening ceremony of the Tsingtao Beer-sponsored 2019 One Pacific Promotional Basketball League last Sunday at the Civic Center Court in Susupe.

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER



IT&E Light and Mawati prevailed in the first two matches played in

## TENORIO

From Page 28

"We only have a 20-meter pool (hotel)," said Watanabe, who also wrapped up her World Championships debut last weekend after competing in the 50m butterfly and timing in at 33.43 seconds.

"I didn't do good. My personal best is 31.9 seconds," she said.

Her PB was set before

## WOO

From Page 28

liot and the Federated States of Micronesia's Leilah Etscheit were defeated by Tahiti's Vaiani Dusserre-Valleaux and Samoa's Roselyn Tupuola in the semis match at the upper half of the bracket, 6-2, 6-0. Tupuola and Dusserre-Valleaux will battle the division crown against Cook Islands pair Te Akaiti Toa and Moana Une, who eliminated Chung and their compatriot Dreana Teapa, 7-6 (3), 6-0.

In the girls U14 singles, Elliot bowed out of contention, as she was defeated by Tupuola, 6-1, 6-1. The Samoa player advanced to the semis against Guam's Alicia Addison, who ousted Etscheit, 6-1, 6-4. Dusserre-Valleaux and Une are the other semifinalists in the division after topping Toa, 6-2, 6-3, and Teapa, 2-6, 6-1, 11-9, respectively.

In the boys U14 singles, it will be Fiji vs Vanuatu in the Final Four. Vanuatu's Zachary Sands will square off against

the 2019 One Pacific Promotional Basketball League last Sunday at the Civic Center Court in Susupe.

IT&E saw action in the curtain-raiser of the Tsingtao Beer-sponsored competition

Saipan was hit by Super Typhoon Yutu in October last year or a less than a month after the Kan Pacific pool ceased its operation. After the devastating storm, Watanabe and other CNMI swimmers were force to stop training for nearly two months before they persevered and trained in hotel pools in preparations for the 2019 Pacific Games in Samoa and the World Championships here in Gwangju.

Fiji's Storm Charles Cornish at the top half of the draw, while the latter's compatriot Maka Ofati crosses path with Noah Molbaleh at the bottom half.

The same four players will collide for the doubles crown, as Molbaleh and Sands made it to the finals after outclassing Tahiti's Noah Ah Kim Win Chin and Aritea Cotti-Helme, 7-6 (3), 7-6 (2), and Cornish and Ofati prevailed over the Cook Oslands' Arikitoa Allsworth and Maka Maui, 6-1, 6-4.

The CNMI's Daniel Kang and FSM's Jones George are in the finals of the consolation draw and will take on the winner in the battle between the Commonwealth pair of Anthony Gregoire and David Kwon and Guam's Jacob Jackson and Aarman Schadev.

In the girls U16 singles, the Solomon Islands' Prudence Bird and Zorika Morgan, Samoa's Eleanor Schuster, and Fiji's Saoirse Green are in the semis. In the doubles, Morgan and Breen will take on Schuster and Penina Kamu in the finals.

and defeated Docomo Pacific, 76-68, while Mawati routed Light & Salt in the second match, 78-53.

It was a come-from-behind victory for IT&E, as Docomo dominated the first half of the opener, leading by as much as 13, 23-10. Ton Diaz scored 10 points, while Shane Deleon Guerrero and Billy Grow added 6 apiece in the first quarter to hand Docomo

a baker's dozen lead.

IT&E faced an early deficit, as it was held to three field goals in the opening quarter before getting its rhythm in the second. IT&E then managed to bring the lead down to single digit at the break, 32-36, after John Nuguid capped the first half with back-to-back triples.

In the second half, IT&E continued to rally and by the end of the third, it stole the

lead, 56-51. Nuguid was still the main contributor in IT&E's comeback bid, as he knocked in three triples in the third period, while three of his teammates combined for 10 more markers in the penultimate frame.

IT&E went on to keep the driver's seat in the final quarter to win its debut in the 12-team field. Nuguid, who was scoreless in the first canto, finished with 19 points, while Aaron

Pamintuan chipped in 12.

In the second game, Mawati led right from the get-go en route to the 25-point winning margin.

Olan Tengco's guns were blazing in Mawati's first game, as he fired six triples and scored 22 points. Frank Ferrer and Arjay Nonato chipped in 12 apiece, while Jerome Directo contributed double figures, too with his 11.

## USWNT does not need Solo in mediation

**NEW YORK**—This time it's Hope Solo whose shot is getting blocked.

The former United States women's national team goalie is attempting to get a seat during mediation sessions between the U.S. Soccer Federation and the USWNT players, but was promptly brushed off by both sides in a filing that sounds more suited for the WWE ring than a courtroom.

Solo's argument for joining the mediation session was to prevent the USWNT from "intimidation and fear tactics." In response, star striker Alex Morgan showed no mercy.

"The Morgan Plaintiffs are all World Champions who

have proven that they bow down to no one and are relentless advocates of equal pay," the plaintiffs said in a legal motion obtained by Th Athletic. "They would only propose a class settlement if they believed it achieved their equal pay objectives under the law and was in the best interests of the class... With all due respect, they do not require Solo's assistance to achieve these objectives."

U.S. Soccer also chimed in, adding that "Solo's motion is unnecessary, procedurally improper, and should be denied."

Aside from this, Solo and



the USSF have separately agreed to mediation in a different case after Solo charged that the she lost her job with the team in 2016 due to her advocacy for equal pay.

The motions pertaining to Solo's involvement in mediation between the USSF and USWNT were filed Friday in the U.S. District Court for Northern California just four days after Solo filed to join Morgan's plaintiffs.

USWNT first filed suit on March 8, ahead of the World Cup, and made equal pay among the many causes they've publicly championed en route to winning their

fourth title in team history.

### Rapinoe meets with two senators

Megan Rapinoe's fight for equal pay isn't over with the World Cup in the rear-view window.

She made that abundantly clear on Sunday afternoon.

The United States' Women's National Team star sat down with Senator Patty Murray (D-WA) and Senator Maria Cantwell (D-WA) on Sunday afternoon in Tacoma, Washington, ahead of Reign FC's game against the Chicago Red Stars, advocating for equal pay not just in women's sports, but in the country as a whole.

## TEEN

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Oliver Fajardo, Kohtaro Goto, Dane Hodges, Akira Kadokura, Jose Lopez, Brian Lubao, Jim Kirt Maniago, Dylan Mister, Ariel Navarez, Daniell Mar Pablo, Jerick Quimzon, Andrew Sablan, Leo Takahashi, Merrick Toves, and Garrett Weaver.

Besides the regular drills that aim at strengthening and polishing the squad's individual and group skills, the Teen Ayuyus also played a training

match against a team from their host—Tuloy Foundation—at the Tuloy XO Field in Alabang last Saturday. Yesterday, the group was also scheduled to face De La Salle Zobel, while its remaining training matches for this week will be against Kaya FC, Stallion FC, and Tuloy. The visiting team will also participate in community outreach programs organized by Tuloy Foundation.

"Most of the boys will be playing off-island for the first time and against different countries, so this training

camp is very important for the team and for the players," said Angeles, who had the group watched a game between the Green Archers United and Stallion FC in the Philippines Football League last Sunday.

"It will also help our players to be more independent and improve their life skills outside their comfort zone. It will be challenging, but we know that this camp will help them improve a lot technically, tactically, and as a team," he added.

After the training camp, the

Teen Ayuyus will have less than two months to put the finishing touches in their preparations for the AFC qualifier (Group G), which will be held in Jakarta, Indonesia from Sept. 14 to 22. Besides the host, the CNMI will be playing against China, Brunei, and the Philippines.

The top finishers in each of the 11 groups in the qualifiers plus the five best runners-up will qualify in the finals that will be played from Sept. 3 to 16, 2020 with the venue yet to be determined.



Strasburg fires  
gem, Nationals  
rout Dodgers

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# Saipan Tribune Sports

Rams shaking off  
Super Bowl loss to  
start training camp

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# Woo stays in contention



ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
Jimin Woo, seen here going for a return to Sean Lee during a local tournament early this year at the Pacific Islands Club courts, is in the semifinals of the boys U16 singles event in the 2019 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Fiji.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

The CNMI's Jimin Woo remains in the race for the boys U16 singles title in the 2019 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships after making it to the semifinal round yesterday.

Woo won the first set of her quarterfinal game against fellow Commonwealth player Sean Lee, 6-4, and was given the outright victory in the second, as the latter could no longer continue to play. Lee faced Woo despite nursing a flu since last Sunday and still gave his teammate a good fight in the opener before calling it a day. Lee needed all the rest he could get, as he and Woo will still have to play in the doubles semis today.

With Woo advancing, he will go for a finals berth in the U16 singles this morning when he challenges Brandon Fong—a 6-2, 6-4 winner over Mohearii Polin in the all-Tahiti quarterfinal showdown. In the other semis pairing, it will be Vanuatu's Clement Mainguy against Tahiti's Vaitea Molinier. Mainguy marched following a 6-2, 6-0 triumph over the Solomon Islands' Junior

Miki, while Molinier also took only two sets to move into the semis and beat fellow Tahiti

bet Manovai Elie, 6-1, 6-2.

After topping Miki, Mainguy will team up with the Solomon Islands player in the doubles semifinals where they will face Eli and Polin. Lee and Woo will also duel a Tahiti pair in Fong and Molinier in the other Final Four game.

In other results, Hyejin Elliot and Serin Chung missed on their respective finals bids in the girls U14 doubles. El-

**See WOO on Page 27**



THE REPORTERS ACADEMY

The CNMI's Juhn Tenorio swims in the 50m backstroke event in the 18th FINA World Swimming Championships last Friday at the Nambu University Municipal Aquatics Center in Gwangju, South Korea.

## Tenorio sets PB in World Championships

By SIMON SMITH  
THE REPORTERS ACADEMY

**SOUTH KOREA**—The CNMI's Juhn Tenorio completed his first World Championships in style after posting a personal best in the 50m backstroke.

His 29.42 seconds in his final event in the 18th FINA World Swimming Championships last Friday at the Nambu University Municipal Aquatics Center caught Juhn by surprise.

"That was the best time. It's pretty good. It was amazing, with this pressure, I'm surprised I got a 29.42," the 15-year-old said.

The impressive time was surely boosted by reacting quickest to the buzzer on his heat in a rapid 0.53 seconds, the joint 4th quickest reaction speed out of all the qualifiers. It is clear to see

Tenorio has been soaking up the experience that has been afforded to him competing in this event. This includes access to world-class swimming facilities.

What has been the highlight of his week? Tenorio was unable to name just one.

"For sure, my teammates, my training, my coach. I'm very thankful for them. Hanging out with my teammates, having fun, doing a good race, and breaking personal records!"

With the competition now over, Tenorio turns his attention toward future international competitions and also hopes to see a dream of his come to fruition—a 50-meter competition pool for the CNMI after the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool's closure.

Aika Watanabe shares Tenorio's hopes.

**See TENORIO on Page 27**

## Teen Ayuyus gear up for AFC tournament

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

The CNMI Boys U15 National Team is in the Philippines for an eight-day training

camp, as the group builds up for the Asian Football Confederation U16 Championship 2020 Qualifiers.

Northern Mariana Islands Football Association techni-

cal director Michiteru Mita and coach Jeresh Angeles and the 22 players of the team left Saipan for the Philippines last Friday and kicked off their training sessions right the next

day. The 22-player roster is made up of Joe Emil Antonio, Jerald Aquino, Gabriel Arkoh, Dev Bachani, Richard Castro, Jeremiah Diaz, Chad Escaner,

**See TEEN on Page 27**



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Players and officials of the CNMI Boys U15 National Team pose for a photo at the departure area of the Saipan/Francisco C. Ada International Airport last Friday before heading to the Philippines for a training camp.